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ART I. *Travels in Turkey, Italy, and Russia,* during the Years 1803, 1804, 1805, and 1806, with an Account of some of the Greek Islands. By Thomas Macgill. Crown 8vo. 2 Vols. 9s. Boards. Murray. 1808.

COMMERCIAL pursuits having led Mr. Macgill to visit the shores of the Mediterranean, he very naturally communicated to his friends, in a series of letters, all those particulars which struck him as worthy of remark: but we are also told, in the hackneyed style, that he had no thoughts of publishing these epistolary details till, on his return, he found the *importunities* of his correspondents too urgent to be resisted. We cannot very highly commend his discretion in yielding to these suggestions; since we are forced to avow our opinion that he is not gifted with the accomplishments of an interesting writer. His materials are meagre; his style is insipid, and not always correct, nor free from Scotticisms; and his historical accuracy is often questionable. As few books of travels, however, can be altogether without amusement and instruction, some useful information has certainly been collected by Mr. M., chiefly of a commercial nature; and his performance has been introduced into the world without pomp or pretension. Though it is disfigured by occasional patches of bad fine-writing, and by some aukward endeavours at vivacity and humour, yet it is, on the whole, creditably exempt from those fantastic impertinences which deform the pages of most modern tourists.

His first letter is dated from Venice, which he visited in the Spring of 1804, and of which he gives a deplorable and heart-breaking picture. After having bewailed the degradation and beggary which the revolution brought on the dastardly and worthless nobility of this republic, he makes an excursion to Ancona, where the most remarkable occurrence is a horse-race after the Italian fashion. The horses, he says, as so many other travellers have said before him, are still

made to run without riders, and are urged forwards by little balls with sharp points hung at their sides, and by pieces of tin-foil fastened to their hinder parts. This method of conducting the sport would, no doubt, be received with merciless derision at Newmarket: but the scheme for deciding the race, by a slight string coloured with red lead, stretched across at the winning post, and which inevitably leaves a mark on the chest of the victor, deserves, for its certainty and impartiality, the serious consideration of the Jockey-Club itself.

From Venice, Mr. M. proceeds to Trieste, on his voyage towards Smyrna, all vessels outward bound from Venice being obliged to touch at Trieste; an absurd and oppressive regulation, by which one place is sacrificed to the prosperity of another, and individuals are wantonly exposed to great inconvenience and hardship. The only islands of the Archipelago described by Mr. M. are Zia and Scio; and the picture of the former is deplorable enough. Filth and indolence, depopulation and poverty, are its general features. The condition of Scio, however, furnishes a more gratifying spectacle. Its trade is still considerable; its inhabitants are acute, enterprizing, and industrious; and both men and women are still remarkable for the beauty and elegance of their persons. Mr. M.'s statement is erroneous when he says that the Roman catholic is the prevailing religion of Scio. Of the population of the capital, nearly four fifths are Greek schismatics; and of the remainder the greater part are Turks. See Olivier's Travels.

Mr. Macgill reaches Smyrna, without any farther accident, except a little fit of fine writing, in which he talks about the 'notes of philomel,'—'distant waterfalls'—'whispering breezes,' &c. &c. (p. 62, 63.)—Of Smyrna, his description is interesting: but we have too much detail about the naval fête, excursions on the water, and fishing parties, of which Mr. M. heard or partook while he was at that city*. On the subject of antiquities, he is not very copious: but he tells us that he was shewn the very grotto in which Homer wrote the Iliad, and the site of a school which the poet is religiously believed to have kept there. Mr. M. should have known that it is discreditable to the gravity and judgment of a traveller, to retail these despicable impostures.

A visit to Ephesus extorts from the writer the following remark, of which we know not whether the pathos or the

* In speaking here of an entertainment on board the Braakel man of war, the author calls that ship the *Braceal.*

wisdom

wisdom be most admirable:—'the city of Ephesus, formerly so celebrated, has now no other *boast*, than that of being one of the most miserable of Turkish villages. No traces are to be seen of Demetrius the silversmith, nor any of his fellows who served the Great Diana of the Ephesians with shrines:' vol. 1. p. 154. A little farther on, we fairly catch Mr. Macgill moralising, and he concludes his account of the present wretchedness of the place with the original and impressive reflection—"*Sic transit gloria mundi!*"—

The author's excursions to the Black Sea furnish him with some important information; and his visit to Odessa, in particular, must have been highly interesting. This city, at the period of his excursion, in July 1805, had scarcely existed four years: but its population was then ten thousand, and was daily increasing; and in every other respect it exhibited the appearance of a most prosperous and valuable colony. In his account of the settlement of Taganrock, Mr. M. is guilty of an unpardonable error in representing it as situated nearly at the mouths of the Don and the Volga. He might as well have said that Bristol was situated at the mouths of the Severn and the Shannon. Taganrock is at the mouth of the river Mius, which falls into the Sea of Azoph considerably to the westward of the Don. The Volga falls not into the Euxine, but the Caspian.

Constantinople was twice visited by Mr. M., and occupies a large portion of his attention. We remarked that in this part of his work, as in many others, he seems disposed, in opposition to most travellers, to speak a good word for the Mussulmans, and to palliate many of the defects which are supposed to belong to their character. According to his representation, they are generous, humane, and charitable; tender almost to infirmity, to the brute creation; and so indulgent in their treatment of slaves, that they positively discredit the existence of any country in which slaves are driven like cattle by the cart-whip, and fed with a stinking herring. To jealousy they are *strangers*; *only* that 'on the detection of an amour with an infidel, the woman is tied into a sack, and thrown into the sea, and the lover beheaded.' To be sure, these generous and humane servants of Alla are apt to be 'vindictive and brutal,'—but then 'bad men are to be found in every country.'—As for their contempt of christians, and their persuasion that the life of an infidel is about as valuable as that of a dog, Mr. M. thinks that these ideas must be attributed to their having constantly in their eyes the subtle Jew and the perfidious Greek. 'Now that Europeans come to be

better known amongst them, they speak of our heroes with rapture and our merchants as men of faith !'

Of the Turkish women, Mr. M. writes as if he had opportunities of unrestrained conversation with them, which we all know to have been impossible. By what means can he have ascertained that these ladies 'have not the same freedom of speech which is allowed to females in other countries ?' (Vol. 1. p. 49.) — Or whence did he derive his information that the bath is used by them to an excess which relaxes the solids, and gives their flesh the appearance of falling from their bones ? (Vol. 2. p. 108.) Lady M. W. Montague had opportunities of becoming acquainted with the habits of Turkish females which Mr. M. could not obtain; and every one who recollects her glowing description of the beauty, which she beheld in the baths at Adrianople, will reject at once the rash statements of Mr. Macgill. The bath, says her Ladyship, "is the woman's Coffee House, where all the news of the town is told, scandal invented," &c.; and in many other passages of her letters, she celebrates Turkey as the country of all others in which the women enjoy the most substantial liberty of speech and action. The judgment of a woman on such a point is, surely, decisive. — Their immoderate use of the bath is negatived by the same testimony, which represents them as resorting to it about once in a week, and remaining there four or five hours without injury; and we are aware of no reason for supposing any alteration in their customs since that time.—The beauty of their teeth is attributed by Mr. M. to the simplicity of their diet: but here again he is at variance with the authority of the same lady, who was twice entertained in the harem with a profusion and variety of meats, prepared with every refinement of cookery. A more probable cause is their abstinence from fermented liquors.—It is almost superfluous to add that the statements of Lady M. W. Montague are ably vindicated and fully confirmed by Mr. Thornton, in his account of the present state of Turkey; a work of which the authority rests on the solid foundation of 15 years' residence in Constantinople and the Turkish Provinces. See Monthly Review for November, 1807.

The most amusing letter in these volumes is that which describes the audience of the English Ambassador, Mr. Arbuthnot, at the court of Constantinople in the year 1806. It is too long to be transcribed here: but we recommend it to the attention of the reader, on the faith of Mr. M.'s assertion that he was present during the whole ceremony; which exhibits a very curious picture of the solemn ignorance and the childish vanity of this strange people.

In

In letter 30th are noticed some of the improvements projected and in part executed by Selim III.; a prince who appears to have been more humane and enlightened than most of his predecessors. The abolition of the Janizaries, and the substitution of an army raised and trained according to the European system, formed the fatal project which occasioned his deposition, and has since terminated in the overthrow of a man of still sterner energies, the Vizir Mustapha Bairactar.—Of the new troops raised in the prosecution of this scheme, we should be led to form a very unpromising idea, if we could rely with safety on the correctness of an anecdote related by Mr. Macgill. In one of his rambles, he tells us that he was taken by an Army-Surgeon into a small coffee-house, where he was served with coffee and pipes by a person who turned out to be the first Major of these celebrated new troops. (Vol. 2. p. 104.) We scarcely know how to credit this representation: but, if true, it shews what little progress had been made in the formation of a force according to the European system; which devotes a particular order of men to the military service of the state, and which considers all commercial occupations, especially those of a low and degrading nature, as utterly incompatible with the profession of arms. In America, indeed, the case is otherwise, which may easily be explained from the peculiar circumstances of that country. The army is there scarcely contemplated as a distinct order of the state, and the constant and pressing demand for industry and capital suffers no man to remain long in an unproductive occupation. For this reason, we hear of American Colonels and Majors who regularly follow the occupations of farming and innkeeping:—but it is scarcely credible that an European government, modelling its forces after a reformed plan, should suffer its field-officers to stoop to the degrading employment and sordid emoluments of the publican.

Constantinople has been so repeatedly described, that Mr. M.'s delineation, even if more ably executed, could furnish but little novelty or entertainment. In his account of that celebrated relique of antiquity, the twisted column of three brazen serpents, which has stood in the Hippodrome, or Atmeidan, ever since the time of Constantine, he represents it to have lost all its three heads by the stroke of Mohammed's battle-axe. We are led from this circumstance to suspect that Mr. M. never took the pains of examining this pillar, since the battle-axe of Mohammed, according to the uniform account of all other travellers, has shattered only the under jaw of one of these monsters. This circumstance is perhaps

of no great importance, except that it occasions some doubt of the general accuracy and diligence of the present traveller.

The unsuccessful attack not long since made by a British fleet on Constantinople renders it interesting, as affording materials for judging of the accounts of that affair, to peruse Mr. Macgill's statement respecting the military strength of the Dardanelles. An order, he says, had arrived from the Porte, a short time before, not to allow strangers to visit the fortifications : but he proceeds to remark that

'The fort on the Asiatic side is built quite close to the water's edge, and has mounted on that side of it several guns of an astonishing calibre. Some of the granite shot lying about the fortress are not less than ten feet and a half in diameter, and are said to weigh from eight to ten cwt. Round the fortress is a ditch, but without water, and if full it would not take a man above the middle. To the south of the fort is a small mound battery of six or eight brass guns of considerable length, but of no uncommon calibre. On the top of the fort are planted many long swivels, carrying a ball of about half a pound. On the European side of the channel, and immediately opposite to the Dardanelles, is built another fort of the same kind, but apparently of better construction, and on a rising ground. The first battery is closer to the water ; the second of an oval shape, is visible from the opposite shore. In this, as in all other Turkish fortresses, there is a mixture of guns of very large calibre. In the lower castle of Smyrna there are several, into which, when on fishing parties, I have more than once crept to avoid a shower.

'To force the passage of the Dardanelles must be an undertaking truly formidable. From the lower castles on both sides of the Hellespont, little danger is to be apprehended as ships can steer tolerably clear of them ; but the fire from those at the Dardanelles, where the channel becomes narrow, and the current remarkably strong, must be very destructive. It would, however, be no difficult matter to storm the castle on either side, particularly that on the Asiatic, which has few or no guns toward the land ; and that on the European is commanded by neighbouring heights. One or both of them being taken, the passage would then be of no difficulty, and without that, no commander of moderate force would think of attempting it, unless he wished his fleet to be destroyed, as with a tolerable breeze, even of southerly wind, a vessel moves so very slowly, that every shot from these castles must tell. This point gained, Constantinople lies at the mercy of every enemy, without fort or gun to defend it, if we except a few saluting batteries—one at Tophana, one at the arsenal, and a few scattered guns at the Seraglio Point, of various lengths and calibres, placed there for the same purpose, without any kind of embrazures or works to cover them.

'The population of the Dardanelles is computed to be between twenty or thirty thousand souls, which, however, appears to me an exaggeration. It is true, a great proportion is composed of Jews, who huddle together six or eight families in the same house.'

The

The remaining particulars, most worthy of notice in these volumes, are a description of Odessa*, by a commercial gentleman named Sievrac; a very minute account of the import and export trade of Smyrna; a table of duties paid by the British, on goods exported from and imported into the Ottoman Empire; and a prospectus of the commerce of tobacco in Macedonia, by Mr. F. Charnaud, consul to the British Levant company, at Salonica:—details, no doubt, of high importance and utility to mercantile readers. Mr. Macgill offers also many intelligent practical observations relative to the trade of the Mediterranean; and he is decidedly of opinion that our commerce in those regions, with Constantinople especially, might be greatly improved and extended, by a little more enterprize on the part of our merchants, somewhat more zeal and intelligence in their factors, and a great deal more honesty in the brokers employed by them. (N. B. These brokers are all Jews.)

We have perhaps been led to notice this work at greater length than it may appear to demand, by the interest with which the Ottoman Empire is necessarily contemplated in these eventful times. Already the legions of France begin to dream on the spoils of the Seraglio; and the present generation may, probably, see the day in which the walls of St. Sophia shall again echo to the voice of christian devotion. It is precisely on this account, that all details relative to these people become more than ever curious and attractive. We are thankful for any memorial, however trifling and minute, respecting a nation which may soon pass away from the theatre of Europe, and cease to deform the face of Christendom by a barbarous superstition, and by a degrading, ignorant, and brutal despotism.

LeB.

ART. II. *Letters and Papers on Agriculture, Planting*, &c. selected from the Correspondence of the Bath and West of England Society, for the Encouragement of Agriculture, Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce. Vol. XI. 8vo. pp. 333. 7s. 6d. Boards. Wilkie and Co. 1807.

ON comparing the statements given in the preface to the present volume, with those which were offered to our notice in that of the preceding, (see M. R. Vol. 52. N. S. p. 412.) we are happy to find that this respectable society

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* We may refer our readers, for ample accounts of this city, to our 50th Vol. N. S. page 343. and 55th Volume, page 442.

(to use the market phrase) *looks up*, and that the secretary is authorized to report it to be in a flourishing condition, though its premiums and bounties have been dispensed with liberality, and its regular income depends on a small subscription from each individual. As the literary and scientific treasure of the society consists in its numerous enlightened members and correspondents, it is not without deep regret that the operations of the scythe of time are recorded, and that a proper tribute is offered to the memory of those who are removed from the field of sublunary exertion. The present secretary, however, seems disposed to represent the activity of this society rather beyond its fair pretensions, when he informs us that a volume of communications has, with a few exceptions, been published at the stated period of two years; because, as the Society has now existed thirty years, and only eleven volumes have been sent from the press, it would be nearer the fact to describe its period of gestation to be three than two years :—but, whether this point be calculated with accuracy or not, it is satisfactory to observe the solicitude which the Society has displayed to avoid disappointing expectation; and we pardon the absence of the usual arrangement in this volume, on account of the zeal and promptitude which its committee of superintendence has evinced. The papers are not classed under distinct heads, and we shall review them in the order in which they occur.

Essay on the best method of inclosing, dividing, and cultivating Waste Lands. By J. Billingsley, Esq. of Ashwick-Grove. —To this essay, occupying 93 pages, was assigned the reward of the Bedfordean Medal, in 1806, and it is certainly intitled to the honour with which it was distinguished. Mr. B.'s remarks, directions, and calculations are the result of long and extensive experience; and persons employed in the inclosure and cultivation of wastes may profit by a perusal of this sensible and methodical paper. The author endeavours to obviate the principal objections which have been urged against inclosing; and, under distinct heads, he treats of 1. *Inclosing and dividing;* 2. *of Farm buildings*, 3. *of Cultivating and manuring*, 4. *of Cropping and Harvesting*, and 5. *of Succeeding Management.* By *inclosing* he means the *outside* bounds of a new inclosure; and by *dividing*, raising *interior* fences: he is led therefore, under the first head of his subject, to treat of the several kinds of fences, the method of making them, and the expence. Stone fences, guard fences, and live fences, are discussed; and the operations of planting Quick, or white thorn, which makes the best live hedges, from the sowing of the haws to the plashing of the hedge, are minutely detailed. Since it has been lately recommended as an expeditious mode of raising quick

quick in nurseries, to cut off the tap-roots of the young quick, and re-plant them in beds with a setting-stick, it is proper to record the remark of this experienced agriculturist on this practice. He informs us that 'plants so raised are not so well rooted; nor do they, when transplanted, grow so vigorously as those raised from the berries.'

Aware of the advantages which result from the shelter obtained from trees, especially when judiciously disposed to break off cold winds and to retain the warm atmosphere, Mr. B. advises the plantation of them in the subdividing hedges, as well as belts and plantation in masses; and though, in general, his advice follows the old maxim, "If you want a large tree, plant a small one," he affords directions for removing trees of a considerable size, for the purpose of immediate shelter or ornament. His rule is as follows:

'A year before the time of transplanting, let a trench be dug round the tree, at a moderate distance, and so as to amputate the roots near the extremities, leaving a large ball about the stump; then fill the trench again with fresh mould, if it can be got; if not, with the same which had before been taken out. In this state let the tree remain till the succeeding year; by which time, a multiplicity of young fibres will have issued from the old amputated roots. These may be considered as so many fresh mouths, ready to receive nourishment, without that check, which generally accompanies the transplanting of trees in the common way.

'The principal branches must be shortened, and the hole prepared for the reception of the tree.

'After a severe frost, when the earth sticks to the roots in a firm lump, let the tree be removed; and care be taken that the hole which is to receive it be perfectly thawed, and of sufficient dimensions to admit the whole of the roots, and that the earth with which it is filled be of good quality and rather moist. Nothing more is necessary than to support the tree with stout stakes, and to cover the roots with loose stones.'

Perhaps the hints which Mr. B. has suggested on the construction of Interior Fences, and on the size and shape of inclosures, will not be less acceptable:

'In marking out the course of the division fences, care should be taken to place them in the direction of the prevailing winds. This position will render them less liable to injury from storms and tempests; for the current of air will follow the direction of the hedge, and do less damage than when the nipping blast attacks it in the front.

'Experience has taught me, that a hedge so placed will come to maturity many years sooner than one in a different direction. The remark, therefore, is important; and the practice cannot be too strongly enforced. But it must be admitted, that hedges in this direction,

rection, though they come quicker to maturity, will not so effectually shelter the land in the future progress of occupation.

'Should the inclosure be of considerable extent, and many years required to cultivate the *whole*, these fences may be made progressively, so as to keep pace with the cultivation of the land.

'The first part to be tilled should be that near the home-sted; and here the inclosures should be small. As you extend, they may be larger; and if the soil and other circumstances be favourable to sheep and corn husbandry, fields of twenty, thirty, or even forty acres, may not be too large. But if grass be the prevailing object, they cannot well be too small, regard being had to the general size of the farm.

'Before the division fences are made, let the land be ploughed, manured, and prepared for the first crop; and then let the fields be marked out in an *oblong* form: this is more convenient to the occupier than a *square:* crops hurdled off, and fed on the land, can with more œconomy be consumed. This oblong shape is also the most favourable to an easy connection by gates.'

The second division, which consists of estimates of farm-houses and appurtenances, conveys information of no very accurate kind; because building-materials and the wages of workmen have advanced since 1802, even more than Mr. B. supposes.

Under the third head, many judicious rules will be found respecting the preparation of waste lands for culture, the rotation of crops, the expence, profit, &c. The result of the whole is summed up in these directions:

'Let the prudent farmer have no more corn than is necessary to renovate his old pastures, and supply the farm-yard with straw.

'Let him mow as little ground as possible: keep no winter stock on his newly-sown artificial grasses; but in summer keep on all his pastures, and on his vetches, as many cattle and sheep, as will eat up the vetches clean, and keep the pastures short and sweet.

'In his yards, let him make as much dung as possibly he can—and this may be increased in summer, by driving all his fatting cattle by day into the yards, and feeding them with cut vetches.

'Apply his dung to his fallows for turnips, &c. &c. and manure his grass with a compost of lime, and earth, &c.

'Let him be particularly attentive to the preparation of his land for the fallow crops of vetches and turnips. On this every thing depends.'

It is the decided opinion of Mr. B. 'that by a judicious system of cropping, and a spirited and unremitting attention to every accessible aid, in the way of manuring, the arable land of this kingdom might be made *nearly doubly* as productive as it is at present.' Now, some persons would be disposed to ask whether, on this view of the matter, it would not be less

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expensive to the improver, and more advantageous to the kingdom, to bestow on the old inclosures all the improvements of which they are capable, than to diffuse our labour and manure over our present commons? A greediness in occupying and appropriating that which usually obtains the name of waste land is, perhaps, more frequently the motive to Inclosure than public spirit; and it is a melancholy fact that the price of grain, and of provisions in general, has increased in proportion as Inclosures have multiplied, though these measures are recommended as tending to produce a contrary effect. The question is not so easily decided, in a political point of view, as Mr. B. supposes, and it ought to be contemplated in all its bearings.

Among the Miscellaneous Observations with which this paper concludes, several useful particulars are specified on the subjects of capital, self-attendance, *letting work* by the *task*, as it is called, in preference to hiring by the day, bailiff, shepherd, *harvesting*, roads, reservoirs of water on elevated situations, keeping of accounts, &c. From this mass of matter we are tempted to make one extract, because we are of opinion that the practice which it recommends ought to be extended:

'*Harvesting.*—It is the practice in the northern parts of the county, and an excellent practice it is, to bind *not only the wheat, but also the barley and oats into sheaves*, and to mow it in the field.

'Every day's cutting of *wheat* is secured in the evening *, and the corn can be put together a day or two sooner, than in the method usually practised; besides, if the mows be opened, and put into hyle or shocks, early in the morning of the day when they are to be hauled into the *large* mow, they will in three or four hours be thoroughly dry. These small mows (provincially called wean mows) are conical in their form, about 10 feet high, and contain about half a waggon-load. They are begun by an upright sheaf, surrounded by other sheaves obliquely placed, till the foundation is formed; after which they are raised to the height stated, lessening towards the top, and covered with an inverted sheaf. The principal attention necessary is to see that they are not made large, and that the *middle* of the mow is in the whole progress of its elevation kept much higher than the *outside*. The men in many parts of the county of Somerset are peculiarly dexterous in this work, and the mows frequently remain five or six weeks in the field without any damage. The cost of sheafing mowing does not exceed 3s. 6d. per acre, and the practice is worthy the attention of other counties.'

On Oak Timber, by Mr. Thomas Davis.—The information included in this paper is given in the shape of answers to

'* It has been the custom lately to cut the wheat a week at least before it is thoroughly ripe, and by so doing, the colour and value of the grain is much improved.'

certain

certain questions, which were circulated by the commissioners of Naval Revision, respecting the state of Oak-Timber. The account here afforded is clear, if it be not satisfactory, and manifests no inconsiderable knowlege of the subject. It is stated by the writer that the quantity of large oak-timber fit for the navy is certainly decreased, as well as the use of oak for country-purposes; —that, though the price of oak has advanced between the years 1763 and 1806 from 45s. to 100l. per ton, this advance is not equal to that which cheese, butter, and many other productions of land, have experienced during the same period; — that, notwithstanding the present high price of oak, it is less profitable to the planter than any other kind of timber;—that therefore few plantations of this tree are made;—that it has not been the interest of the proprietors of woods to allow trees to obtain their full growth;—and that the only means of postponing the cutting of oak, till it attains sufficient size for naval purposes, is the offer of such prices for *large* timber, as no individual can afford to give for country-purposes. Mr. D. is very solicitous of throwing the monopoly of large oak-timber into the hands of Government, and he urges that a considerable advance of price is necessary to insure the preservation of this timber in general.

On the Blight in Wheat, by the same.—We cannot affix so much value to this paper as to the preceding, though it comes from the same source. As a good practical general rule, it may be admitted that any cause, which tends *to weaken* the wheat plant, will pre-dispose it to receive blight: but Mr. D. has given an instance in which he attributes blight to the plant being too vigorous and rapid in its growth. On the whole, he has left the subject just where he found it.

On supplying the Poor with Milk. By the same.—In a neat and perspicuous manner, the project of assigning large portions either of meadow or arable land to the poor, whose extra labour can be adequate only to the culture of a garden, is here exposed; and it is clearly shewn that the labourer is more regularly and effectually benefited by small portions of manured land, lett to him at a small price for the growth of potatoes, and by milk supplied daily to him on the same terms. The experiment, tried in the populous village of Horningsham, under the direction of the Marquis and Marchioness of Bath, is one instance of the beneficial effects of such a plan for supplying the poor, and it is capable of being extended.

Mr. Lewin Tugwell presents us with an essay *on Slating*,—and on other matters, he should have added,—for besides his professed subject he indulges himself with a philippic against *thatching*,

thatching, boasts of his agricultural inventions, and puts himself in a hostile attitude against certain critics. As, however, he does not "shake his gory locks at us," we shall give ourselves no concern, but proceed to state that this paper is a supplement to one on the same subject in the preceding volume; that the mode of roofing and covering with slate, recommended by this gentleman, is fully detailed and illustrated by a plate; that it appears to possess advantages over the common practice; and that the hints respecting the cutting, squaring, and classing of slates according to particular sizes at the quarry, are too judicious (we should think) not to enforce attention.

An Account of the Manufacture of two Pieces of Navy-Blue Broad Cloth, for the Premium of the Society; with the Report of the Committee; and a Letter from Dr. Parry, *containing further Observations on his Wool.*—Two pieces of superfine navy-blue-cloth were manufactured by Samuel Yeats and Son, one of wool grown in England by Dr. Parry, on his Merino Ryeland sheep, and the other of prime Leonesa Spanish wool, of the Coronet pile: the process in both instances was the same; and the result was that 41lb. 8oz. of Dr. Parry's clean washed wool made 26 yards, and 12 nails of cloth; while 44lb. of the Spanish wool made 27 yards, 6 nails. The manufacturers add:

'From this statement it appears, that 41 lb. 8 oz. of British wool have made, within ten nails, as much cloth as 44 lb. of Spanish wool; but the Spanish cloth is the stoutest. They have neither of them undergone *any state* of the *press*. The colour of the wool for both the cloths was directed to be exactly the same, but the British is darker than the Spanish. But though this may please the eye better, the darker colour will not handle so soft as the lighter shade of blue.

'Although perhaps we may be deviating from our sphere in pronouncing which is the finest of the two cloths, yet we feel so fully persuaded that we are only anticipating the decision of the Committee, that we do not scruple to say, that in our opinion as manufacturers, the cloth made with the British wool, and marked in Dr. Parry's name, is decidedly of the finest quality.'

At the annual meeting in 1801, the Committee appointed to examine cloth and wool substantiate this account, and conclude their report by offering it as their decided opinion 'that Dr. Parry had, by his zeal, diligence, perseverance, and activity, accomplished the grand object of producing in the climate and soil of Britain wool equal to that usually imported from Spain; and that in so doing he merited the warmest thanks of the country.' To complete the report, it is proper

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to subjoin the following explanation, copied from Dr. Parry's letter:

'The wool of the cloth made by Messrs Yeats and son, of Glocestershire, in comparison with that from the Refina wool of the celebrated Coronet pile from Spain, consisted of ewes' fleeces from my flock, which is descended from Ryeland ewes, crossed with the rams of the King, and Lord Somerville, to the fourth generation.

'The British cloth would have been much finer, but from the unskilfulness of the wool-sorter, who, notwithstanding he had his choice of a great many better fleeces, admitted several of a coarser kind, which not only deteriorated the cloth, but greatly increased the relative proportion of the inferior sorts of wool. It will be easy to obviate a similar defect on any future occasion.

'I beg leave further to state to the Society, that the sheep producing these fleeces were kept in excellent order for a full twelvemonth before shearing, having been fed in the respective seasons, not only with grass and hay, but with vetches, clover, cabbages, potatoes, linseed, and oil-cake.'

This experiment is not more flattering to Dr. P. than satisfactory to the country; and we should be happy to hear of its repetition on a large scale, so that reviewers as well as sailors may be supplied with a blue pair of pantaloons. Hitherto we have longed in vain to be *all English*, in our *best clothes*.

An Account of sundry Proceedings in the Society, relative to an experimental Farm. By Mr. Matthews.—Desirable as the objects proposed by Mr. M. in his plan of an experimental farm may be, we are of opinion that it is clogged with too many difficulties to be ever realized. Instead of expecting to find a volume of practical knowlege in a single farm, is it not better to compile it from detached leaves contributed by several intelligent, spirited, and persevering agricultural experimentalists? Why not request every farmer of the Society to convert the land which he occupies, as far as he possibly can with convenience, into an experimental farm, and annually to state the result?

Account of the Wheat Moth, or Virginia Fly; as it appeared in France in the year 1755; *and which damaged the Grain in the Township of Lower Dublin in the Harvest of* 1802, 1803, *and* 1804. Communicated by Mr. Matthews.—In this republication, the nature, ravages, and mode of destroying this pernicious insect are described.

An Inquiry whether the pure Merino-breed of Sheep is now necessary in order to maintain the Growth of superfine Wool in Great Britain. By Dr. Parry.—Every discussion conducted by a gentleman of Dr. Parry's correct and philosophising mind must be interesting; and when patient experience is added to

scientific acumen, as in the memoir before us, it is impossible to read without improvement. After having reasoned from analogy by taking a general view of races or breeds of animals, the Dr. comes to the specific object of inquiry; and in opposition to those who have contended 'that no cross-breed of sheep, however finely woolled, produced by any English ewes by the Merino-race, can, by breeding in and in, maintain the ultimate fineness of the fleece, without having recourse, from time to time, to new crosses of the pure breed,' and 'that fine wool can with difficulty be *preserved* in Great Britain,' Dr. P. undertakes to demonstrate that new crosses of the pure breed are no more necessary to preserve the fineness of the wool of sheep, than new crosses with Arabian stallions are requisite to perpetuate the qualities of our race-horses; and that the history of the Spanish Merino-breed, as well as recent experience with sheep of this race in various climates, must remove every doubt of the possibility of maintaining, with proper attention, all their valuable qualities in this island. We wish that our limits would allow us to make several extracts from this luminous essay: but we can do no more than transcribe its conclusion:

'On the whole, I think that experience authorizes us in laying down the following important maxims: That where any race of animals, in any country, has during 3 or 4 descents maintained certain valuable qualities, proper care uniformly directed to nutrition and breeding from the same stock, will deliver them down unimpaired to the latest generations; and therefore, 2dly, That under such circumstances, those animals are best for breeding, which possess those qualities in the highest degree, however they may be denominated, or from what country soever they may be derived.'

To this paper, Dr. P. has subjoined *Tables of the Female Descendants from* 100 *shearling Ewes during* 20 *Years*,' which will be useful to breeders of sheep.

In the former volume, Mr. Matthews, duly considering the state of the times, obliged the public with observations on *Family Wine Making*, to which a letter on the same subject was affixed by the late Dr. Anderson. A kind of supplement is now furnished by Mr. M.: but he is so far from concurring with Dr. A. in the reprobation of spirits, that we find brandy an ingredient in his family mixture. The following is given as:

'*An useful Recipe for making Family Wine.*

'Take, Black Currants,
Red ditto,
White ditto,
Ripe Cherries, (Black Hearts are the best)
Raspberries, - - - - each an equal, or nearly an equal

equal quantity: if the black currants be the most abundant, so much the better.—To 4lb. of the mixed fruit, well bruised, put one gallon of clear soft water: steep 3 days and nights, in open vessels, frequently stirring up the mass: then strain through a hair sieve. The remaining pulp press to dryness. Put both liquids together, and to each gallon of the whole put 3lb. good, rich, moist sugar, of a bright yellowish appearance.—Let the whole stand again 3 days and nights, frequently stirring up as before, after skimming off the top. Then tun it into casks, and let it remain, full and purging at the bung-hole, about 2 weeks. Lastly, to every 9 gallons put one quart of good brandy, and bung down. If it does not soon drop fine, a steeping of isinglass may be introduced, and stirred into the liquid, in the proportion of about half an ounce to 9 gallons.

'N B. Gooseberries, especially the largest, rich-flavoured, may be used in the mixture to great advantage; but it has been found the best way to prepare them separately, by more powerful bruising, or pounding, so as to form the proper consistence in pulp; by putting six quarts of fruit to one gallon of water, pouring on the water at twice; the smaller quantity at night, and the larger the next morning.—This process, finished as aforesaid, will make excellent wine, unmixed; but this fluid, added to the former mixture, will sometimes improve the compound.'

Several hogsheads of wine have been thus manufactured by Mr. M., which was pronounced to be of excellent quality.

An Inquiry into the Causes of the Decay of Wood, and the Means of preventing it. By Dr. Parry.—Adverting to the extreme durability of wood, when preserved from the united action of air and moisture, and to its rapid decay when left in contact with air and water, this ingenious inquirer discusses what may be termed the theory of rot in timber, whether exposed to the open air and to the wetting of dews and rains, or to damps in close situations, where the disease commonly termed *dry rot* appears. Having explained in the clearest manner the way in which air and water operate in the decomposition of wood, he next endeavours to prescribe a preventive remedy, in both cases. The insufficiency of common oil-paint to preserve wooden fences, weather-boarding, &c. induced Dr. P. to make various experiments to obtain a more effectual covering; and he recommends the following composition, which he has himself tried with great success:

'Take 12 ounces of rosin, and 8 ounces of roll brimstone, each coarsely powdered, and 3 gallons of train-oil. Heat them slowly, gradually adding 4 ounces of bees'-wax, cut in small bits. Frequently stir the liquor, which, as soon as the solid ingredients are dissolved, will be fit for use. What remains unused will become solid on cooling, and may be re-melted on subsequent occasions.

'It is necessary to mention that compositions made of hot oil should for the sake of security be heated in metallic or glazed earthen

vessels in the open air. For whenever oil is brought to the boiling point, or 600° of Fahrenheit's thermometer, the vapour immediately catches fire, although not in contact with any flame; and though a lower degree of temperature than that of boiling should be used in this process, it is not always practicable either exactly to regulate the heat, or to prevent the overflowing of the materials, in either of which cases, were the melting performed in a house, the most fatal accidents might follow.'

Of the dry rot, this theory is given: 'It is a more or less rapid decomposition of the substance of wood, from moisture deposited on it by condensation, to the action of which it is more disposed in certain situations than in others; and that this moisture operates most quickly on wood which most abounds with the saccharine or fermentible principles of the sap.' It is added that in all cases this evil 'may be infallibly prevented, where it is practicable to cover the surface of the wood, properly dried, with a varnish which is impenetrable and indestructible by water.' The circumstance of having wood *properly dried*, or seasoned, as it is called, is of great importance; because timber which is painted before its saccharine moisture, or sap, is exhaled, is often destroyed by dry rot.—At all times, the discussion of such a subject by an enlightened writer must be important: but, when so necessary an article as timber is becoming scarce and dear, the inquiry here instituted merits particular attention; and we therefore recommend this paper to general perusal.

On the Cultivation of the Poppy for extracting Oil. By Dr. Cogan.—The basis of this communication is a letter from Ebenezer Hollich, Esq. of Wittlesford Lodge, Cambridgeshire, in which this gentleman states that 3½ bushels of poppy seed (weighing 1 cwt. 2 qrs.) produced 6 gallons 2 lbs. of oil (7½ lbs. to a gallon), and 3 qrs. 25 lbs. of cake. He denies, however, the assertion made by Dr. C. in a former paper on this subject, (see Vol. x. p. 335.) that poppy oil is equal to olive oil. It is added by Dr. C. 'that since the article in the preceding volume was written, he had received information from a friend, that the poppy oil is used in France and other places, in the counting-houses of merchants, in preference to any other. It it said to give a more vivid light, and to be much freer from fuliginous vapours.'

Mr. H. found it difficult to harvest the poppy without a great waste of the seed, on account of the holes in the dried poppy-head or pod.

An Experiment on Soap-Suds as a Manure, by Mr. G. Irwin, with Remarks by the Rev. T. Falconer.—Soap-suds were here found very invigorating as manure for poor land; and they are also recommended as a wash for fruit-trees, to protect them against the ravages of insects.

A Communication relative to the Advantages derived from a Friendly Society at Horningsham, on account of its Benefits being extended to Lying-in Women. By Mr. Thomas Davis *.—From this letter, which was accidentally omitted in the former volume, we learn that the Friendly Society in the parish of Horningsham, which contains about 200 families, by advancing to each of its members a bounty of 15s. for every child born in lawful wedlock, administered to the comfort of lying-in women, and became the means of preserving their offspring. As the particulars can be easily given, we should be inexcusible if we omitted them:

'The number of members of the Society have been, on an average of the last ten years, 84.

'The number of children for which bounties have been paid, in 10 years, 1794 to 1803, have been as follows:

198 paid for at the birth.
176 paid for at the end of a fortnight.

So that 22 only died within the fortnight. And upon examining the parish register, it appears that only 7 have died since.

'It follows that 169 out of 191 children born are living at this time, and that the diminution by deaths has been very little more than one-sixth, of all the children born. Whereas no writer on the subject has ever calculated on the loss of less than one-third within two years after birth, and some have reckoned nearly one half.'

Chemical Analysis of Soils, &c. By C. Boyd.—We are reminded, in the preface, that the information which this memoir conveys is perfectly novel in the annals of the Society. The establishment of a Laboratory, and the liberal offer of the late Dr. Archer to read lectures at Bath, gratuitously, on chemistry as connected with agriculture, are also mentioned. Mr. Boyd is Dr. Archer's successor, and this paper contains the result of several experiments. After some introductory observations, in which the mode of analysing earths and soils is minutely explained, he proceeds to detail the results of experiments made with Chalk, bluish grey Lime-stone, Bastard Chalk, Fuller's-Earth, Bastard Do., Gypsum, or Native Sulphet of Lime, Lead Slags from Mendip, a productive *soil*, from the neighbourhood of Bristol, &c. This paper is creditable to Mr. B. as an analyzer.

The *Correspondence relative to a very fertile Piece of Land at Wantage, in Berkshire*, proves very little, and was scarcely worthy of publication. We say not, however, the same of the

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* The loss which the Society has sustained by the death of this valuable member is lamented in the preface, and in the warmest terms by the Secretary at the conclusion of this paper.

article which follows, containing *Additional Observations on crossing of Animals*, by Dr. Parry.—Farther to illustrate the doctrine urged in a former paper, 'that by crossing to a certain extent, we may either fully arrive at the standard and fixed qualities of the original male, or may establish a new variety of animals, as permanent as any which now exists,' Dr. P. examines the principle of pure original breeds, for which some persons are so strenuous, and shews the absurdity which it involves.

The concluding article contains a list of premiums and bounties.

It will be seen from the foregoing abstract, that, though this volume does not embrace so great a variety of subjects as some of its predecessors, it is enriched by communications of no inconsiderable merit; and that, if it cannot vie in the department of Mechanics with the Transactions of the Society for Arts, &c. London, its papers in other branches afford us some recompense.

Mo.y.

ART. III. *The Remains of Hesiod the Ascræan*, translated from the Greek into English Verse: with a preliminary Dissertation, and Notes. By Charles Abraham Elton. 12mo. pp. 397. 12s. Boards. Longman and Co. 1809.

WE have here the first complete translation of the remains attributed to Hesiod. The quaint and rugged version of George Chapman comprehends only the Works and Days, or, as he calls them, the Georgics: it was published in 1618, is now scarcely to be procured, and is more likely to repel than to invite the curiosity of the modern English reader. The translation by Thomas Cooke includes the Works and Days, and the Theogony, but omits the Shield of Hercules; it was first published in 1728 in 4to, is now to be found in the second volume of Dr. Anderson's collection of poetical translations, and has lately been printed by Mr. Lee in his collection of translations, announced in our number for March last, Article XI. p. 315. Cooke's performance, as we then remarked, is often careless and inelegant, and is defective in accuracy and fidelity: but in many parts, it has very uncommon poetical merit, and unquestionably deserves a much higher character than Mr. Elton has been pleased to bestow on it, when he describes it as 'a very slovenly performance, possessing little beyond the accidental merit of filling a blank in our literature.' (Preface, ii.)

A new and complete version of Hesiod was, nevertheless, a fair object of literary enterprize: but the undertaking pre-

sents no very alluring reward to poetical ambition, since the remains of the Bard of Ascra are but scanty, and are not likely to afford much gratification to the taste of any readers except professed scholars or antiquaries. With the exception of two or three splendid passages, the Theogony is nearly as interesting as a calendar of saints, or a pocket-peerage. In the poem intitled the Works and Days, we find more of regular combination, and uniform execution; yet still a collection of lessons for the conduct of life, and a series of directions for the labours of agriculture, can scarcely be very attractive, unless recommended by the highest graces of diction, and the most refined artifices of composition. The curious relique called the Shield of Hercules, also generally ascribed to Hesiod, is for the most part a bloated rhapsody; and those who have become familiar with Homeric imagery will bring to the perusal of it fancies already gorged with scenes of brutal violence and impossible valour, and will turn away from the adventures of a bullying Hero, or the amours of an adulterous divinity.

Of these disadvantages, Mr. Elton appears to have been sufficiently sensible:

'The remains of this ancient poet,' he justly observes, 'are chiefly interesting as curious memorials of the legendary fables of the Greeks, of their system of ethics, and of the rude arts and manners of a remote age. A translation of Hesiod is perhaps little calculated to become popular, but it should not be judged by the same poetical standard as a translation of the metamorphoses of Ovid, or the Georgics of Virgil. I am well convinced that from the very nature of the work, malignity might extract food for its gratification, but from candour I expect that, be my own deficiencies what they may, I shall not be considered responsible for those of my author.'

What are the peculiar temptations which this work offers to the indulgence of malignity, we are at a loss to discover. We, certainly, are engaged in no conspiracy to deprive Mr. Elton of the benefit of the maxim, that the sins of the poet are not to be visited on his translator. Tried by this rule, his performance will be found to possess great fidelity, and considerable spirit. Where he is animated and supported by his original, he displays vigour of conception and felicity of language;—he often approaches the highest elevations of his author, and generally succeeds in giving a faithful representation of his manner as well as his sentiments;—he abstains with tolerable steadiness from disguising the faults of Hesiod, or exalting his beauties;—and we discover, on the whole, but very little in the version which may not be confidently sought in the original; though the distresses of rhime have been occasionally

ally relieved by the admission of superfluous words, and by the fabrication of one line for the sake of another.

If, however, Mr. Elton has produced a more exact likeness of Hesiod than his predecessors conveyed to us, we greatly doubt whether his work will succeed in displacing the translation which he so slightly values. Cooke, with all his inaccuracy and licentiousness, has a greater boldness and freedom of execution than Mr. Elton. The present work unquestionably contains numerous passages more happily laboured than any which can be produced from the former: but the attraction of poetry must be ascertained by its general effect; not by the splendour or beauty of particular parts. The critic and the scholar will, possibly, give their approbation to the performance of Mr. Elton: but we are disposed to believe that the class of readers, for whose use translations are more particularly designed, will adhere to Cooke with all his imperfections.

The principal faults of this translator are an extravagant admiration of Miltonic harmony and diction; an inordinate passion for compound epithets; and an occasional affectation of inverted construction, and obsolete phraseology. These defects communicate to his performance an unnatural and pedantic air. They are chiefly conspicuous in his version of the Theogony and the Shield; for which, as being of an epic character, he has unhappily chosen blank verse. No blank translation, that we recollect, has ever succeeded eminently, and the experiment does not seem to be very happily repeated in the present instance. The Theogony, more particularly, from the nature of its subject, requires all the assistance of rhime to keep attention from slumbering; and whatever would be thus lost in exactness would be more than doubly gained in attraction. As long as it is the object of writing to procure readers, so long must translators abjure all hopes of emancipating themselves from the bondage of rhime. We must allow that for most of his compound epithets, Mr. E. is indebted to his author; and we are ready also to admit that the spirit of the original must often be lost, if these characteristic adjuncts be suffered to fume away in the unmeaning generality of "*brave*" — "*beauteous*," — "*graceful*," &c. Yet our language has not sufficient ductility for a profusion of these combinations; and though they may occasionally enrich and strengthen the composition, it often happens that they may either be advantageously suppressed or may be more elegantly represented by a single word, or a skilful periphrasis. The punctuality, with which Mr. E. has preserved these compounds, is scrupulous to an excess

that may be retrenched without injury to the original. In the following instances, and in many more which we cannot transcribe, the words are yoked together by violence,—*sub jugo aheneo*—: viz. *cheek-blooming—beauty-blooming—groan-scattering — horror-freezing — self-wandering — white-gnashing — bloody-devouring — morn-plaining —bribe-devourer* (δωροφαγος, rendered by Cooke with much greater force and propriety, "*of bribes the glutton*")— &c. &c. &c. Besides these, Mr. Elton has loaded his translation with such epithets as *all-haughty—all-subtle——all-chilling—all-eloquent*,—&c. &c.

We can find great room for improvement in Mr. E.'s versification. In its present state, it is often harsh and rugged, and sometimes lame and feeble. Among the defects of his blank verse, may be noticed his propensity to a very unmusical division of his lines at the end of the first foot, or third half foot; pauses which are occasionally used by Milton for the sake of variety, and which we are by no means desirous of seeing altogether discarded: but the heroic harmony is greatly crippled and enervated by an indiscreet repetition of them.

As Cooke's version is now so accessible, we shall not enter into a more particular comparison of its merits with those of Mr. Elton, nor fill our pages by transcribing long extracts from each of them, but shall content ourselves with selecting a few specimens, which will exhibit to our readers some of the defects as well as excellencies of the present work.

We cannot insert the whole of the battle of the Titans: but we select the following lines as exhibiting the powers of the translator to great advantage, and falling very little short of the grandeur of the original:

'Nor longer then did Jove
Curb his full power; but instant in his soul
There grew dilated strength, and it was fill'd
With his omnipotence. At once he loos'd
His whole of might, and put forth all the God.
The vaulted sky, the mount Olympian, flash'd
With his continual presence; for he pass'd
Incessant forth, and scatter'd fires on fires.
Hurl'd from his hardy grasp the lightnings flew,
Reiterated swift the whirling flash
Cast sacred splendour, and the thunderbolt
Fell: roar'd around the nurture-yielding earth
In conflagration, far on every side
Th' immensity of forests crackling blaz'd:
Yea, the broad earth burn'd red, the streams that mix
With ocean, and the deserts of the sea.
Round and round the Titan brood of Earth

Roll'd

Roll'd the hot vapour on its fiery surge;
The liquid heat air's pure expanse divine
Suffus'd: the radiance keen of quivering flame
That shot from writhen lightnings, each dim orb
Strong though they were, intolerable smote,
And scorch'd their blasted vision. Through the void
Of Erebus, the preternatural glare
Spread, mingling fire with darkness. But to see
With human eye, and hear with ear of man,
Had been, as if midway the spacious heaven,
Hurtling with earth, shock'd—e'en as nether earth
Crash'd from the centre, and the wreck of heaven
Fell ruining from high. So vast the din,
When, Gods encountering Gods, the clang of arms
Commingled, and the tumult roar'd from heaven.'

The conflict of Jove with Typhæus is also vigorously executed, but it presents similar images, and is too long for insertion.

The description of winter, from the *Works and Days*, which has been rather flippantly ridiculed by Addison in his essay on the Georgics of Virgil, is rendered by Mr. E. with considerable felicity; though he has given to the picture an elegance and a finish for which it will be vain to look in the rough carton of Hesiod:

'Beware the January month; beware
Those hurtful days, that keenly piercing air
Which flays the steers; while frosts their horrors cast,
Congeal the ground and sharpen every blast.
From Thracia's courser-teeming region sweeps
The northern wind, and breathing on the deeps
Heaves wide the troubled surge; earth echoing roars
From the deep forests and the sea-beat shores.
He from the mountain-top with shattering stroke
Rends the broad pine, and many a branching oak
Hurls 'thwart the glen: while sudden from on high
With headlong fury rushing down the sky,
The whirlwind stoops to earth, then deepening round
Swells the loud storm, and all the boundless woods resound.
The beasts their cowering tails with trembling fold,
And shrink and shudder at the gusty cold.
Thick is the hairy coat, the shaggy skin,
But that all chilling breath shall pierce within.
Not his rough hide can then the ox avail,
The long-hair'd goat defenceless feels the gale;
Yet vain the north-wind's rushing strength to wound
The flock, with sheltering fleeces fenc'd around.
The aged man inclines his bowed form,
But safe the tender virgin from the storm.
She strange to lovely Venus' mystic joys
Beneath the mother's roof her hours employs.

Around her nightly flows the tepid wave,
And shining oils in liquid fragrance lave
Her yielding limbs; thus pillow'd to repose
In her soft chamber, while the tempest blows.'

In the subsequent passage, the directions of the original are faithfully preserved, and delivered at once with elegance and with true didactic brevity and compression; while the beautiful piece of natural painting at the end of it is happily copied:

'I warn thee, now around thy body cast
A thick defence and covering from the blast;
Let the soft cloak its woolly warmth bestow,
The under-tunic to thy ankle flow:
On a scant warp, a woof abundant weave;
Thus warmly wov'n the mantling cloak receive;
Nor shall thy limbs beneath its ample fold
With bristling hairs start shivering to the cold.
Shoes of a slaughter'd ox's lasting hide,
Soft-lin'd with socks of wool, thy feet provide:
And kid-skins 'gainst the rigid season sew
With sinew of the bull, and sheltering thr
Athwart thy shoulders when the rains impend;
And let a well-wrought cap thy head defend,
And screen thine ears, when drenching showers descend.
Bleak is the morn, when blows the north from high;
Oft when the dawnlight paints the starry sky,
A misty cloud suspended hovers o'er
The spacious earth with fertilizing store,
Drain'd from the living streams: aloft in air
The whirling winds the buoyant vapour bear,
Resolv'd at eve in rain or gusty cold
As by the north the troubled rack is roll'd.'

We fear that the word *rack* in the last line is now almost obsolete, and that it is necessary to inform many of our readers that it signifies a mass of clouds, as it appears when driven by the wind.

The creation of Pandora, though in one or two parts, perhaps, rather more highly coloured than the original, is on the whole characterized by elegance and fidelity:

'Jove bade the crippled god his hest obey,
And mould with tempering water plastic clay;
With human nerve and human voice invest
The limbs elastic and the breathing breast;
Fair as the blooming goddesses above,
A virgin's likeness with the looks of love.
He bade Minerva teach the skill that sheds
A thousand colours in the gliding threads:
He call'd the magic of love's golden queen
To breathe around a witchery of mien;

And

And eager passion's never-sated flame,
And cares of dress that prey upon the frame;
Bade Hermes last endue with craft refin'd
Of treacherous manners, and a shameless mind.
' He gives command, th' inferior powers obey;
The crippled artist moulds the temper'd clay:
By Jove's design arose the bashful maid;
The cestus Pallas clasp'd, the robe array'd;
Ador'd Persuasion and the Graces young
Her taper'd limbs with golden jewels hung:
Round her fair brow the lovely-tressed Hours
A garland twin'd of Spring's purpureal flow'rs:
The whole attire Minerva's graceful art
Dispos'd, adjusted, form'd to every part:
And last the winged herald of the skies,
Slayer of Argus, gave delusive lies;
Insidious manners, honeyed speech instill'd,
As he that rolls the deepening thunder will'd:
Then by the feather'd messenger of Heav'n
The name Pandora to the maid was giv'n;
For all the gods conferr'd a gifted grace
To crown this mischief of the mortal race.
The Sire commands the winged herald bear
The finish'd nymph, th' inextricable snare:
To Epimetheus was the present brought,
Prometheus' warning vanish'd from his thought—
That he disclaim each offering from the skies,
And straight restore, lest ill to man arise.
But he receiv'd; and conscious knew too late
Th' insidious gift, and felt the curse of fate.'

We have some doubts of the propriety of the sense ascribed in the 11th line of this extract to γυιοκόρους μελεδώνας. Why should this expression be supposed to point to the anxieties of dress, rather than to the tender solicitudes of passion, which waste the body while they corrode the heart?—We are aware, indeed, that, according to one etymology, γυιοκόρος μελεδώνη may signify an anxiety about the delicacy or decoration of the limbs; a sense which will certainly justify the translation. We presume that Mr. Elton was resolved at all events not to be wrong, and therefore contrived to preserve both interpretations:

' And *cares of dress* that *prey upon the frame.*'

In the ensuing passage, the execution is very unequal:

' For thrice ten thousand holy dæmons rove
The nurturing earth, the delegates of Jove:
Hovering they glide to earth's extremest bound,
A cloud aërial veils their forms around;
Guardians of man, their glance alike surveys
The upright judgments and th' unrighteous ways.

A virgin

A virgin pure is Justice: from the king
Of Heav'n her birth; a venerable thing
And glorious, to the deities on high,
Whose mansion is yon everlasting sky.
Driven by despiteful wrong, she takes her seat
In lowly grief at Jove's eternal feet:
There of the soul unjust her plaints ascend,
So rue the nations when their kings offend;
When uttering wiles and brooding thoughts of ill,
They bend the laws and wrest them to their will.
Beware, O monarchs! ye that gifts devour,
Make straight your judgments now in timely hour;
That crooked equity no more be seen,
Eras'd, forgotten, as it ne'er had been!'

'*Venerable thing*' in the 8th line of this extract is lame and feeble; and the four concluding lines are but spiritless, especially the last two, which express the meaning of Hesiod in a very aukward and cumbrous manner. He merely enjoins Sovereigns to *forget altogether*, i. e. *to renounce*, the practice of perverting justice—σκολιῶν δὲ δικῶν ἐπιπαγχυ λάθεσθε. The whole of this passage is incomparably better rendered by Cooke.

Our limits admit not of farther extracts; nor can we enter into a very minute examination of subordinate defects. We must, however, protest against such words as *exhaustive*, or *suffocative*, in a passive sense. *Rife* is a favourite word with Mr. Elton; and wherever he has introduced it, we have always wished that it had been omitted. The term '*variegated*,' as applied to the note of a bird, is utterly inadmissible. We have detected also some mean and vulgar expressions; as,

'Full many works of curious craft, to sight
Wondrous, he graved THEREON.' l. 773.—p. 105.

——— 'the grievous fault, *the which*
Irrevocable is.' l. 126. p. 207.

P. 103. l. 735, ἄφθιτα μήδεα is rendered by *counsel incorruptible*, an expression which surely has more sound than meaning. The original signifies the immutable designs, the undecaying wisdom, of the Deity.

P. 230. l. 599, ϑρισσάρματος is inadmissibly represented by *bender of chariots*; a phrase which will scarcely help the reader to *any* meaning, and certainly not to that of the author.

P. 158. Hesiod tells us plainly that "the Gods have placed before Virtue the sweat of the brow."—This blunt and downright admonition is totally emasculated by Mr. Elton, who has substituted for "*sweat*" the following languid and affected periphrasis:

'But

'But virtue dwells on high: the Gods before
Have placed *the dew that drops from every pore.*' p. 158. l. 390.

It is amusing to remark the embarrassment of a translator, when he comes on ground so completely occupied that no room is left for him. The following passage, expressive of the auspicious or the unfavourable aspect of different days, is thus very properly rendered by Cooke:

"One cruel as a stepmother we find,
And one, as an indulgent mother, kind."

Observe the aukward endeavours of his successor to avoid his footsteps:

'*Now* as a stepmother *the day* we find
Severe: and now as is a mother kind.'

At pp. 215 and 221, Mr. Elton approaches so near to the heroic times of that same worthy peer Duke Theseus and his Græcian chivalry, that he cannot forbear to talk about *Knights!!*

'There was the *Knight* of fair haired Danae born,
Perseus.' The Shield, v. 297.
'Next then were *knights*, who painful effort made
To win the prize of contest, and hard toil.' Ib. v. 411.

P. 222. v. 435. 'Egean Sire' is surely a very unmeaning and obscure representative of πατρὸς διὸς αἰγιόχοιο—the ægis-wielding Jove.

In the preliminary dissertation, the authenticity of the remains ascribed to Hesiod is considered. The most questionable of these is the Shield of Hercules, of which Tanaquil Faber says that "they who think it not of Hesiod, have a very superficial acquaintance with Grecian poetry;"—while Joseph Scaliger talks of "the author, whoever he may be, of the Shield, which the critical world by a preposterous judgment have attributed to the Poet of Ascra."—Between these conflicting authorities, Mr. Elton has endeavoured to find a middle course. His conjecture is rational and ingenious, and we are greatly disposed to adopt it.

'It is extraordinary, (says he,) that to none of the critical commentators on Hesiod does the idea of a *cento* of fragments appear to have suggested itself. Yet the texture of the poem completely favours this hypothesis, which reconciles all difficulties. Undoubtedly there are strong grounds for believing that it did not form a part of the Catalogue of Women in its present entire *form*.

'In the scholium of the Aldine edition of Hesiod, it is observed, "The beginning of the Shield as far as the 250th verse is said to form a path of the fourth Catalogue." Here then is an admission that

that the *whole* of the Shield did *not* form a part of it; and, from the vague manner in which the scholiast expresses himself, we may be allowed to conjecture that he might possibly be mistaken as to the exact number of lines. This portion in fact comprehends the meeting of Hercules with Cygnus; his arming for battle, and a partial description of the Shield: circumstances which, it must be confessed, have very little relation to the praises of Alcmena.

'I should be inclined to consider the first fifty-six lines only as belonging to the fourth Catalogue of Women. This portion, ending with the birth of Hercules, is aukwardly coupled with the warlike adventure of Hercules in the grove of Apollo, by the line,

'Who also slew Cygnus, the magnanimous son of Mars.'

This line is visibly the link of connection between the two fragments, and betrays the hand of the interpolator. The succeeding passage, as far as verse 153, which includes a short description of the Shield, I conjecture to have formed a part of the Herogony; and to have been immediately followed by the 320th line, where he is represented as fitting the buckler to his grasp, and ascending his chariot. Some few other passages, including the speech of Pallas to Hercules and of Hercules to Cygnus, may, I think, be classed as genuine fragments; but the whole * impertinent digression from line 154 to line 320, which is occupied with the sculptured emblazonment of the Shield, and generally the similes at the close of the poem, I regard as interpolations.

'Possibly they may be ascribed to the hand of some rhapsodist, who, from having been accustomed to recite the poems of Homer, could not easily adopt the style of Hesiod, but in his attempt to patch up this forgery gave into Homeric imitation. The mixture of authenticity and imposture will explain the dogmatism of opinion which marks the contradictory decisions of the learned on this curious question.'

In the notes at the conclusion of the volume, we meet with learning and good sense; and as we never desire to see these qualities disfigured by affectation, we wish that Mr. E. had forborne to talk of 'the generous and elegant gallantry of Homer!'—For the solution of the perpetual ænigma of the antient mythology, he resorts to the assistance of that mighty scholar Jacob Bryant, from whose Analysis he has

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'* We may here apply the criticism of Vida:

For why should Homer deck the gorgeous car,
When our rais'd souls are eager for the war;
Or dwell on ev'ry wheel, when loud alarms
And Mars in thunder call the hosts to arms?

Pitt's translation.

It may be observed that the Shield of Achilles only fills a pause in the action of the poem, and is not therefore open to the same objection as the Shield of Hercules.'

transcribed

transcribed copiously, and whose system he considers as at least preferable to any other that has yet been promulgated.

In note 42. p. 272. Mr. Elton contends that Αργέστης is used by Hesiod to signify the East wind; in contradiction to the generality of the commentators, who suppose it to be either a name or an epithet of one of the westerly winds. As Hesiod has mentioned the three other winds, and as we have no reason for supposing that he should omit the East, we could wish that Mr. Elton's position should be established: but, in addition to the authority of Pliny and Aulus Gellius, he has against him that of Aristotle, who describes the Αργέστης as a westerly wind, which blows, ἀπὸ τῆς θερινῆς δύσεως, from that part of the heaven in which the sun sets at the summer solstice; and he farther says that by some it is called Olympias, by others Iapyx. If Αργέστης be an epithet, it may signify not only *swift*, but *serene*, (*albus*,) an epithet applied by Horace to the wind Iapyx: Od. III. 27. v. 29, 30.—"*et quid albus peccet Iapyx.*"—On the other hand, it is proper to remark that ἀργέσται is interpreted, in Hesychius, by οἱ ἐτήσιοι, the winds which commenced regularly every year from the rising of the Dog-star, and which are differently described by different authors; some representing them as blowing from the N. W., and others from the N. E.—Besides, in a note to the word σκείρων in Alberti's edition of Hesychius, an opinion is intimated that Αργέστης is properly an Easterly wind, ἀπηλιώτης ἄνεμος.

At the end of the volume is an Appendix, containing a short biographical notice of George Chapman, with specimens of his version of "the Georgics of Hesiod."

Le B.

ART. IV. *The Siller Gun.* A Poem, in Four Cantos: with Notes, and a Glossary. By John Mayne, Author of the Poem of "Glasgow," &c. 12mo. pp. 153. 4s. Boards. Richardson. 1808.

THE siller gun, celebrated in this lively little poem, is a silver tube, about ten inches long, which was presented by James the Sixth to the town of Dumfries, to be annually carried off as a prize by the best marksman among the seven corporations of that antient borough. According to tradition, it was mounted on a silver carriage, with silver wheels: but these, if they ever existed, have disappeared, and the weapon, in its present state, is likened to a penny whistle. The contest, on account of the trouble and expence attending it, does not take place so often as its royal founder required, and is probably for this reason the more considered; when the festival is appointed, the

birthday of the reigning sovereign is always chosen. Mr. Mayne has described the celebration which was held on the fourth of June, 1777; the last occasion, as far as he can learn, on which the old custom was observed. We have so great a regard for harmless old customs, the remains of those military pastimes which were instituted by our ancestors, and are besides so much interested in favour of this particular holiday by the poem before us, that we sincerely hope that it may be soon revived and often solemnized.

As to the scanty fable which serves as a basis for these four cantos, it is neither more nor less than that various corporations of Dumfries fired at a target, which was hit by none of them except William M'Nish, the taylor, to whom the siller gun was accordingly adjudged, as the trophy of the day: but these meagre materials, which do not appear capable of commanding a moment's attention from any one residing more than five miles from Dumfries, are so well concealed by Mr. Mayne in the general bustle of the scene, and so skilfully mingled with description, incident, and character, that even we *Suthrons* are transported in imagination to the spot, and cannot refrain from joining in all the riotous jollity of the day. The poet, however, takes, in the first place, a retrospect of the anxious anticipation with which the future holiday was expected, and the great preparations which preceded it:

'For weeks before this fête sae clever,
The fowk were in a perfect fever,
Scouring gun-barrels i' the river—
At marks practizing—
Marching wi' drums and fifes forever—
A' sodgerizing!

'And turning coats and mending breeks,
New-seating where the sark-tail keeks;
(Nae matter tho' the cloot that eeks
Is black or blue;)
And darning, with a thousand steeks,
The stockings too.'

When the morning arrives, the *Trades* march forth in procession to a field called the Craigs, where the important Target is erected:

'Wi' hats as black as ony raven,
Fresh as the rose, their beards new-shaven,
And a' their Sunday's cleeding having
Sae trim and gay,
Forth came our Trades, some ora saving
To wair that day.'—

'And

'And ne'er for uniform or air,
Was sic a group review'd elsewhere!
The short, the tall; fat fowk, and spare;
Side coats, and dockit;
Wigs, queus, and clubs, and curly hair;
Round hats, and cockit!

'As to their guns—thae fell engines,
Borrow'd or begg'd, were of a' kinds
For bloody war, or bad designs,
Or shooting cushies—
Lang fowling-pieces, carabines,
And blunder-busses!'

The blacksmiths led the van, marching 'twa and twa;' the *Squaremen*, or carpenters, followed; then came the weavers; after them the taylors,—the *souters*, or coblers—the skinners,—and the *fleshers*, or butchers. Lastly come their several apprentices and journeymen, though they are not permitted to share in the competition.—The curiosity and admiration of all the town's people, and the tender interest taken by the fair sex in the exhibition of their husbands and lovers, are finely represented:

'As thro' the town their banners fly,
Frae windows low, frae windows high,
A' that cou'd find a nook to spy,
Were leaning o'er;
The streets, stair-heads, and carts, forbye,
Were a' uproar!

'To see his face whom she loo'd best,
Hab's wife was there amang the rest:
And, while wi' joy her sides she prest,
Like mony mae,
Her exultation was exprest
In words like thae:

"Wou! but it makes ane's heart loup light
To see auld fowk sae cleanly dight!
E'en now our *Habby* seems as tight
As when, lang syne,
His looks were first the young delight
And pride o' mine!"

'But on the meeker maiden's part,
Deep sighs alane her love impart!
Deep sighs the language o' the heart,
Will aft reveal
A flame which a' the pow'rs of art
In vain conceal!'

We

We should be delighted to transcribe the motley groupe of spectators, 'the old acquaintances in swarms,'

'Where louder grew the busy hum
Of friends rejoicing as they come;'

and their pleasing recollections of old times, though disturbed by 'now and then a silent tear

'For friends departed, kindred dear,
(*Friends, wha were aye the foremost here,*)'

'Of bonny lasses, tight and clean,
Buskit (dressed) to please their ain lad's een;'

and the children, who are brought to the shew because no one is at home to take care of them, and who are pleasingly described as

'Wee things giggling in the arms
O' their fond mithers:'

but the important business of the meeting calls us from the booths and gingerbread-stalls to the field of noble emulation. —In apologizing for the aukwardness and alarm of 'big John M'Maff,' who was unable to manage his musket, the poet introduces some noble stanzas:

'Peace and gude-will had been sae lang
The burthen o' the people's sang,
Their arms like useless lumber hang,
Till France, amain,
Decreed, wi' fell Invasion's fang,
Our soil to stain;

'Then, ere our King cou'd gi'e command,
Up raise the Genius o' the land!
DUMFRIES, in mony a chosen band,
Enarm'd appears,
Fit, in ae phalanx, to withstand
A host o' spears!

'Nor was this fervour only here,
It spread, like wild-fire, far and near!
Scotland, to ilka Virtue dear,
Tho' aft inthrall'd,
Scotland was never i' the rear
When Danger call'd!

'At hame, afield, or far awa',
She bore the brunt in front of a'!
The last to sheathe, the first to draw
Her auld Claymore,
For Liberty, her King, and Law,
And native shore!

'Oh!

'Oh! in his King and Country's Cause,
How blest is he wha nobly fa's!
Bright Fame her gowden trumpet blaws,
And deathless Story
Devotes his name, wi' loud huzzas,
To endless glory!' *

The unsuccessful attempts of Wull Shanklin and others are also particularized; till, animated by the immortal name of Wallace, M'Nish sends his ball through the target. The following are perhaps the most interesting fruits of his victory:

'His winsome wife, wha lang had miss'd him,
Press'd thro' the croud, caress'd and kiss'd him:
Less furthy dames, (wha' cou'd resist them?)
The example take;
And some held up his bairns, and bless'd them,
For daddy's sake!'

Furthy is translated in the glossary *free in behaviour.*

Here we close our extracts; though more than two cantos follow, in which the minstrelsy, the feast, the loves of the young, the fears and suspicions of the old, a dance and many songs, and (we are sorry to add) *a boxing match and a riot*, are most naturally recounted. Before the final separation of the assembly, universal harmony is restored, and all separate in perfect good humour with themselves and their companions.

Mr. Mayne's notes are entertaining: but his glossary, which is very requisite for English readers, is rather too confined than too ample. His language is indeed extremely *racy*; though he has proved, by some verses introduced in a note, that he is capable of expressing the warmest feelings of Scottish patriotism in pure English. They are addressed to the river Nith:

'Hail, gentle stream! for ever dear
Thy rudest murmurs to mine ear!
Torn from thy banks, tho' far I rove,
The slave of poverty and love,
Ne'er shall thy Bard, where'er he be,
Without a sigh remember thee!

* In this place we may properly add the honourable anecdote related by Mr. Mayne, in a note, respecting one of the companies of the Dumfries volunteers:

'On a recent occasion, one of the companies, herdsmen from Eskdale Moor, offered, in case of invasion, to march to Edinburgh, upwards of seventy miles distant, in one day, provided they were allowed to put off their shoes and stockings!'

For there my infant years began,
And there my happiest minutes ran;
And there, to love and friendship true,
The blossoms of affection grew!'

We wish that this address had been completed, and shall be very happy to meet the author hereafter in the walks of English poetry.

Den.

ART. V. *Lectures on Scripture-Facts.* By the Rev. William Bengo Collyer (*now* D.D.) 8vo. pp. 594. 12s. Boards. Hatchard.

DIVINES often descant with satisfaction on the plainness of the Christian religion; assuring us, in the language of antient prophecy, that "*the wayfaring man shall not err therein.*" As far as this position respects the *duty* of Christians, it is indisputable, since the commands and injunctions of our Saviour are delivered in the clearest and most intelligible language: but the assertion cannot be meant to apply, in these days and in European countries, to the whole scheme and system of Revelation, because the history and evidences of our religion are of an erudite nature, demanding a portion of learning and scientific research which cannot be expected to belong to the general mass of mankind. Christianity, springing from and resting on the basis of Judaism, carries us back to the most remote periods of time; and, besides an acquaintance with Asiatic languages, it requires in its defenders a knowlege of those æras and dispensations which include the most interesting portions of the history of God's antient people. What an extensive field of inquiry is thus opened! How are the first ages of the world, and the annals and transactions of nations who have long, long ago, ceased to exist, forced as it were to re-appear before us! In this laborious retrospection, darkness and obscurity will often settle on the prospect: but, considering all circumstances, more traces of light appear, and more reflected rays dart on the subject of Revelation, than persons who are unacquainted with antient writers may be inclined to imagine. Since the credibility of the Bible rests on various historical facts, it has frequently been asked, How are these facts supported by the concurrent testimony of the earliest heathen historians? How do sacred and profane annalists accord?

Many Christian writers have taken up the pen to satisfy curious inquirers on these points; and one in particular, though neither quoted nor named by Dr. Collyer in the volume before us, we mean *Shuckford*, has, in 4 volumes, stated the connection

which

which subsists between sacred and profane history, from the creation of the world to the dissolution of the Assyrian empire; while Lardner's Jewish and Heathen Testimonies perform this task as far as the *Facts* of the Gospel are concerned. Though, however, various learned men have anticipated the present lecturer, and have left him very little matter for discovery, we are far from thinking that his undertaking was unnecessary; or that his attempt to familiarize his hearers and readers with the points of learning, which the evidences of our religion include, is to be censured as ostentatious pedantry. It is true that the multitude must in a great measure depend on him for the accuracy of his report: but, as he appeals to and produces documents, with translations, they may from this work acquire additional reasons for looking with respect to the records of the Bible.

From the preface, we learn that the design here fulfilled originated in a cursory conversation of the author with some friends; who suggested to him that it would be a desirable object, in order to counteract infidelity and corroborate faith, 'to produce a confirmation of the Facts recorded in the sacred writings, from contemporary historians, so far as these could be obtained; and where the remoteness of scriptural narrations stretched beyond the chronology of heathen compositions, to adduce such fragments of antiquity as time has spared us, so far as they bear any relation to events transpiring at the earliest periods.' Revolving this hint in his mind, and considering the manner in which this ground had been previously occupied, it appeared to Dr. C. (as he tells us,) 'that a work was yet wanting which might interweave foreign testimonies to the truth of Scripture-history with the discussion of the history itself, which might admit general and important remarks with a selected subject, and which might relieve the barrenness and langour of mere discussion, and of a series of extracts from heathen writers, by assuming the shape and the ardour of pulpit and popular addresses.'

So far Dr. Collyer is right. None of his predecessors have exhibited historical testimonies in so oratorical and embellished a manner. When Dr. Shuckford undertook "to set the transactions of the earliest ages of the world in a clear light for the purpose of aiding his readers in forming a judgment of the truth and exactness of Scripture-history, by shewing how far the old fragments of the heathen writers agree with it, and how much better and more authentic the account is, which it gives of things when they differ from it;" he had no thought of interrupting the grave progression of the inquiry by rhetorical flourishes, or of subjoining to re-

marks on history, chronology, and geography, the captivating appendages of popular and practical sermons. The present lecturer, therefore, if he has not gone so fully and accurately into the investigation as some of his predecessors, has been more attentive to general effect, and to gain the heart as well as the conviction of common readers. We shall allow Dr. C. to give, in his own language, the object and scope of his undertaking:

'It will be proper, in a few words, to state the immediate purpose of these lectures, and the object of the plan which I am about to suggest: it is simply to meet scepticism on its own ground in relation to first principles. Is it asserted that the facts recorded in this volume have no evidence? We shall endeavour to prove that they are furnished with all the evidence which events so remote can have, and which reason ought to require of time. Is it said that Christianity is a modern invention? On the contrary, if our purpose be established, it will appear as old as the creation. Is the authority of the Scriptures questioned? We will produce other testimonies. Is its history condemned as absurd! We shall attempt to shew that it is perfectly rational; and that all evidences weighed, and all circumstances considered, it is clear that events could not have taken place otherwise than as they are recorded. Is it objected, that it claims support from miracles? It will follow from our representations, if they are made with the strength and clearness which we desire, that such a book, so written, and so supported, could it be proved to be false, would be of itself a greater miracle than any which appears upon its pages. The facts which it records, are the immediate subjects of examination in the present course of lectures; and these will be considered in connection with their history, and confirmed by foreign and antient testimony, under the following arrangement:

'1. The present lecture, which is merely introductory, will be an attempt to prove the necessity of a divine revelation.

2. The creation; that the Mosaic account of it is the only rational one which we have received:

3. The Deluge:

4. The destruction of Babel, the confusion of language, the dispersion of the people, and the origin of nations:

5. The destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah:

6. The history of Joseph; which will bring us to the close of Genesis:

7. Intermediate lecture; a scriptural representation of the nature and destination of man:

8. The slavery and deliverance of Israel in Egypt:

9. The journey of the Israelites in the wilderness; their establishment in Canaan; and the circumstances attending these events:

10. The government of the Jews; including the theocracy and monarchy, to the building of Solomon's Temple; with a confirmation of some subordinate facts recorded in the Scriptures;

11. The

11. The captivities of Israel and Judah:
12. The life, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ, proved as matters of fact:
13. The character of the writers of the Old and New Testament;
14. Concluding lecture—the unsearchable God; or, an attempt to prove an analogy between the religion of nature and that of the Bible, by shewing that the same obscurity which overshadows revelation, equally overspreads nature and providence.'

Each of these lectures must have occupied much more time in the delivery than an ordinary sermon; and we should imagine that, from the preacher's digressive, declamatory, and we may add *poetic* style, he would be a favourite with the admirers of pulpit oratory. We frequently meet with flourishes which are calculated not so much to strengthen the argument, as to make an impression on the audience in favour of the preacher's nice feelings and correct taste. Thus, having mentioned the beauty of the visible creation, he exclaims to his hearers:

'Let the friend of *my* choice be one who can relish the majesty of nature; who, on the close of the day, from the summit of some lofty mountain, will watch the rising cloud, and observe the evening spread her grey and dusky mantle over the features of the landscape, till they are lost and extinguished; whose eye is fixed with delight on the stars as they break one by one through the increasing obscurity; and who, withdrawing from the world, and penetrating the forest, can rejoice with the laughing scenes around him, and can relish retirement, nor envy the dissipation of life, as he hears its noise swelling on the gale of the evening. The friend of God, and the admirer of nature, is the man whom I would choose as my companion, and love as my own soul.'

This apostrophe, in the theatre, would be called a *Clap-trap*; we know not what to term it in a sermon: but such pathetic touches are calculated to procure for the preacher the reputation of being "*a very fine man.*"

In the first discourse, Dr. C. deduces the necessity of divine revelation, from a view of the superstitions and rites of worship among barbarous and among enlightened heathens, from their civil institutions and defective morals, and from their uncertain conjectures in relation to futurity. These subjects are strikingly discussed: but we were surprized that he should have omitted, in his picture of the immorality of paganism, the horrors and cruelties of the Amphitheatre.

Some observations on the capacity and extent of Reason introduce the second lecture. It is admitted that reason is able, by her genuine efforts, to deduce from the works of na-

ture 'the immensity, the wisdom, and the liberality of God:' but then, says the preacher, 'What is he to *me?*' The weakest of his audience might have replied, "a wise and liberal creator and parent;" an answer which would have gone a great way towards the solution of the subsequent questions: but we shall not meddle with points which are out of the record. The direct thesis to be argued is, *The Mosaic account of the Creation*; *which*, it is here contended, *is the only rational one which we have received.* Here much learning and philosophy come into play; and we should be happy if we could add that, by their combined aid, every difficulty had been removed. As far as the superiority of the Mosaic account over other antient systems of cosmogony is concerned, Dr. C.'s quotations establish his proposition: but the rational divine will prefer the prophet Isaiah's representation of the Almighty, —that "*he fainteth not, neither is weary*,"—to the anthropomorphic notion of the repose of the Deity after six days' labour, mentioned in the book of Genesis. The excellence of the Mosaic cosmogony consists in its laying the basis of religion by the acknowlegement of a Creator: but it must be conceded that the details are embarrassing. This lecturer objects to the removal of one difficulty by substituting the new translation of "*a vehement wind* overspread the surface of the waters," for the old version, "*the Spirit of God moved*," &c.; observing that, by parting with the literal reading, Milton's poetical idea ("*Dove-like sat brooding*," &c.) is lost: but we should have imagined that an orthodox divine would have disrelished the gross idea of the incubation of the material abyss by the second person of the Trinity, and would even have preferred the Hindoo fancy of churning the ocean, to the impregnation of it by the Holy Spirit.

Dr. Collyer admits that, on the subject of the Deluge, it is impossible to form any hypothesis that shall be free from difficulty: but he endeavours to ascertain the fact by natural phænomena and by historical testimonies; and he is very angry with Dr. Geddes, on account of the unreserved manner in which that theologian offered his heterodox opinion. The lecturer endeavours to fix the attention of his audience and readers, by stating the dimensions of the Ark, which he calculates to have been 547 English feet long, 91 broad, and 54 high: but, when we consider that His Britannic Majesty's ship *Hibernia*, of 120 guns, measures from figure-head to taffarel only 241 feet, 53 in extreme breadth, and 60 in depth, it is not easy to conceive (without supposing a miracle) how the first floating machine that was ever constructed should have been more than twice the extent of one of our first-rate

men

men of war, and that naval architecture should have *gone so much greater lengths* before the flood than at the present day.

We find, in the next lecture, *On the destruction of Babel*, &c. a great miscalculation respecting the duration of the deluge. Dr. C. says 'that 365 days Noah *floated on the surface of the waters.*' Moses informs us that the flood began on the 17th day of the second month, in the six hundredth year of Noah, and that on the 17th day of the seventh month, the ark rested on the mountains of Ararat. (see Gen vii. 11. and viii. 4.) Before the waters were quite drained off, several months elapsed: but it is added, (Gen. viii. 13.) that in the six hundred and first year of Noah, in the first month and the first day of the month, the waters were dried up. It will not be easy to make 365 days from the 17th day of the second month of one year, to the first day of the following year.

The dispersion of nations naturally generates new languages. As, after the fall of the Roman empire, the Italian, French, Spanish, and Portuguese tongues sprang out of the Latin, can there be any good reason for imagining, with this writer, 'that at the destruction of Babel new languages were framed by the miraculous and immediate interposition of divine power?'

To ascertain the fact of *the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah*, the lecturer adduces the testimony of heathen writers, and offers some judicious remarks on the necessity of distinguishing truth from fable when they are blended together in antient narratives:

'It is asserted by Tacitus, that the traces of the fire which consumed these cities were visible in his days. "At no great distance are those fields, which, as it is said, were formerly fruitful, and covered with great cities, till they were consumed by lightning; the vestiges of which remain in the parched appearance of the country, which has lost its fertility."

'The testimony of Philo and of Pliny accords with that of the Roman historian.

'Diodorus Siculus describes the lake Asphaltites at large, in two different parts of his work, and concludes his account by saying, "The region round about burning with fire, exhales a stench so intolerable, that the bodies of the inhabitants are diseased, and their lives contracted."

'Strabo, in writing on the same subject, thus concludes: "There are many indications that fire has been over this country; for about Masada they shew rough and scorched rocks, and caverns in many places eaten in, and the earth reduced to ashes, and drops of pitch distilling from the rocks, and hot streams, offensive afar off, and habitations overthrown; which renders credible some reports among the inhabitants, that there were formerly thirteen cities on that spot, the principal of which was Sodom, so extensive as to be sixty furlongs in circumference; but that by earthquakes, and by an eruption of

fire, and by hot and bituminous waters, it became a lake as it now is; the rocks were consumed, some of the cities were swallowed up, and others abandoned by those of the inhabitants who were able to escape."

'Similar to this is the language of Solinus. "At a considerable distance from Jerusalem, a frightful lake extends itself, which has been struck by lightning, as is evident from the ground, black, and reduced to ashes." He goes on to relate the fable of the apples growing near it, which were said to appear fair to the eye, but to contain only sooty ashes, and upon being touched, to exhale into smoke, or to vanish into dust. The same fiction is mentioned also by Tacitus: but we must learn, in receiving the testimony of ancient historians, to distinguish between truth and fable, to separate the former from the latter, with which it is often found overwhelmed, to discriminate between the fact and the legend, to divide that which they saw, from that which they admitted only from tradition, to make allowance for their credulity, and impartially to weigh the evidence which they produce. Moses is not answerable for the fondness which they discovered for the marvellous, nor for the fables which tradition blended with his history. Neither is their account of that which they saw, to be rejected for the easy credit which they gave to that which they only heard, and heard from disputable authority. While the facts of the Mosaic history are confirmed, his superior purity, and consequently credibility, is established.'

When we come to *the history of Joseph*, (the subject of the sixth lecture,)—a history surpassing in beauty and genuine pathos every antient and modern tale, true or fictitious,—and (passing over the 7th) to *the slavery and deliverance of Israel in Egypt*, (the subject of the eighth lecture,) we cannot help lamenting the silence of Herodotus, who was a contemporary with Ezra, respecting the history of the Jews; and who was not unacquainted with Palestine, had visited Egypt, and seems to have studied Egyptian history and antiquities. The only way to account for his having taken no notice of the most remarkable events of the Jewish people is by supposing that, as these events were disgraceful to the Egyptians, their priests studiously concealed these portions of their annals from the prying eyes of strangers. The reader will suppose, however, by one assertion made at p. 423. of Dr. C.'s volume, that 'Herodotus records the taking of Jerusalem by the King of Egypt;' and by the reference at the bottom of the next page, to lib. ii. cap. 141, that this Greek writer had copied some fragments of Jewish history! but though *Senacherib* is named, and it is true that in this place we may trace the tradition of the destruction of his army, yet the city of *Jerusalem* is not once mentioned. Indeed, the Greeks and Romans seem to have held the Jews in so much contempt, that it is no matter of astonishment that the former slightly adverted to the affairs

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of the latter, and that their historical notices of them are concise and erroneous*. Manetho, as he is quoted by Josephus, Justin the epitomizer of Trogus Pompeius, Pliny, and Tacitus, may assign a reason for the departure of the Jews out of Egypt which is not creditable to that people: but, as the fact itself, which is a very singular one, is admitted, we may without fear leave it to the decision of sensible men, whether it be not more probable that the Jews effected their deliverance in the manner recorded in the Bible, than that a whole people were expelled from a country in which they were kept in bondage, on account of their being afflicted with *Elephantiasis*, or leprosy. We are sorry to find Dr. Collyer asserting that 'both the miracles performed by Moses and those wrought by the magicians were real;' since it is a doctrine admitted by all theologians, that miracles are unquestionable testimonies of a divine mission; and this position must fall to the ground, if the Deity, for any purpose, patronized deceivers, or if Demons and their agents were permitted to work real miracles. Besides, why recur to so dangerous a principle, when the historian expressly declares that the magicians imitated, to a certain extent, the messenger of God "by their enchantments?" Instead of combating the lecturer, we shall refer him to Mr. Farmer's ingenious Essay on Miracles.—In connection with this subject, we must also enter our protest against the preacher's comment on the visit of Saul to the Witch of Endor, in a subsequent lecture. He tells us that he believes that it was the spirit of Samuel that appeared: but we think that, if he will peruse Dr. Chandler's solution of this difficulty in his history of David, and will consider all the circumstances with attention, he will find reason to change his opinion.

We are presented with one of Dr. C.'s *forced* remarks in his commentary on '*the Journey of the Israelites*,' &c.:

'Before they removed from this station [Rephidim], they were compelled to fight with the Amalekites. Joshua went out to battle at the head of the army: Moses ascended the top of the hill, with the rod of God in his hand, probably to intercede for the interposition of heaven.—Israel prevailed so long as his hands were elevated: but when through weariness he suffered them to drop, victory leaned to the side of Amalek. Aaron and Hur supported his arms till the sun went down, and Amalek was subdued. How lovely

* We know that Major Rennel, in his Geographical System of Herodotus, remarks that the great city of *Cadytis* mentioned by the Greek historian is *Jerusalem*: but we have no absolute proof of this conjecture: nor is it probable that the fall of Jerusalem should be the consequence of a victory gained in the plains of Magdolus, which was near the Pelusiac branch of the Nile.

is fraternal unity! Even Moses needed assistance; and who can pass through life without it? Let us learn, that our burdens are lightened, our peace promoted, and our success ensured, by mutual kindness, and by mutual attention. And who can read this singularly beautiful narration, without being reminded of Jesus our Mediator, through whose intercession, and the lifting up of his hands, we have freedom of access to God now, and shall finally be made more than conquerors, over all our enemies?'

The subjoined passage is more judicious, and adapted more immediately to the purpose of this course of lectures:

'The testimonies which we have adduced, confirm the Mosaic history *as a whole*, rather than *detached parts* of it; and surely when it is considered, as it has been clearly proved by Josephus on the testimony of MANETHO, that the settlement of the Jews in Canaan, was three hundred and ninety-three years before Danaus came to Argos, whom the Grecians acknowledge their most ancient prince, and from whom they are frequently named; and that it preceded the transactions of Troy, celebrated by their most ancient poet, a thousand years; particular confirmations of such striking events as the deluge, and a general acquiescence with the scripture record, is all that ought to be, and all that can be expected from heathen writers. They could not know any thing of these circumstances but by tradition. ORPHEUS himself lived but one thousand years before Christ; HESIOD nine hundred; HOMER eight hundred and fifty. Orpheus himself, therefore, was only contemporary with Rehoboam, the son of Solomon. The settlement in Canaan took place one thousand four hundred and twenty-seven years before the birth of our Lord; that is, four hundred and twenty-seven years before Hesiod; and five hundred and seventy-seven years before the celebrated Homer. Is it a subject for wonder that obscurity should rest upon facts so ancient? We appeal to the unprejudiced—is it not rather extraordinary, that facts so remote should have evidences so strong and decisive?'

Passing over the discourse on 'the *Government of the Jews*,' &c. we shall proceed to the 11th (the last which refers to the Old Testament), intitled, *the Captivities of Israel and Judah*. Dr. C. ascertains the former to have taken place 721 years before Christ, and the latter in the year 588, or 133 (not 134, see p. 455,) years from each other. On the disappearance of the ten tribes of Israel, after this latter event, he offers some sensible remarks; and we are of opinion, with him, that they are irrecoverably swallowed up or amalgamated with the nations to which they were sent. 'There is no record (says the preacher) of their return, there are no traces of their tribes, there is no evidence of their existence. Those who maintain that they are yet in being, advance only an hypothesis incapable of demonstration; and the most general

conclusion upon the subject is, we believe, that they are wholly lost.'

A reason is thus assigned for their sharing a different fate from the tribes of Judah:

'Till the days of David the promises respecting the Messiah were of general import, that he should descend from Abraham. But then they became more explicit, and it was declared that Christ should be of the house of David. To the family of David, therefore, the promise was restricted. So long as they adhered to, and were connected with, the house of David, which was also the house of Jesus, they were separated with their brethren from the rest of mankind, and their existence was secured: but when they voluntarily resigned their interest in that house, and were severed from the two tribes, they were dispersed and absorbed among the nations, and the few who returned from captivity lost their distinction: they returned with Judah and Benjamin, and were swallowed up of their brethren.'

The vast extent and grandeur of Babylon make a figure in this lecture: but this picture of antient magnificence would be no novelty to our readers.

Respecting the lectures which treat on the facts mentioned in the gospel-history, we must be concise, because we have already exceeded the limits which we purposed to assign to this article: but we cannot pass over two circumstances which occur among the extraneous testimonies to the life of our Saviour; the first of which concerns a quotation from the Elder Pliny, and the second relates to the interpolated passage in Josephus. Dr. Collyer does not, as usual, refer us to the place in Pliny's Natural History: but, taking the evidence at second-hand, he states that this author makes a report on the appearance of the luminous body, which shone in the heavens at the birth of Christ, and by which the Magi were conducted to him. Had the Dr. actually turned to Pliny, lib. ii. cap. 25, he would have been convinced that the remark of this Natural Historian, concerning the nature of comets, is general, and has no reference to any particular event.—In the next place, we think that the lecturer has been indiscreet in pressing into his service the supposed testimony of Josephus to the divine mission and character of Christ; because on the very face of it we recognize the marks of a most clumsy forgery. It proves too much; since the historian, after having given such evidence, must have professed himself a christian. Lardner's reasons for rejecting the paragraph are sufficient: viz. "that it is not quoted, nor referred to, by any christian writers before Eusebius; that it is wanting in the copies of Josephus which were seen by Photius in the

ninth century; that it is unsuitable to the character of Josephus, and interrupts the course of the narration." (Works, vol. vii. p. 120, et seq.) These arguments are stronger than those which are adduced by Dr. C. at p. 520. in order to satisfy the reader that this is a genuine part of Josephus's text.

For a specimen of the practical parts of these discourses, we quote the sensible and animated conclusion of the 13th lecture, on the character of the writers of the N. T.

'We detain you only to offer two concluding remarks respecting the best mode of reading the Bible to advantage. The *first* shall regard the ALLOWANCES which should be made in consulting this sacred volume. Whoever has paid any, the least, attention to it, must recollect that there are allusions to customs which exist no longer; and that its sublime and poetic parts are filled with figures of speech not altogether familiar to us. We are surrounded by imagery, and reading a language perfectly new—more bold and striking than these colder climes and tongues usually exhibit. When you take up the scriptures make these several allowances. Remember that you are reading the records of ages which have rolled away, and of nations, which have either long since perished, or which exist no longer in the same form. You should allow for the swelling, metaphoric *style of the East.* Their mode of expression is always bold and magnificent beyond the imagination of an European; and the face of their country is also widely different. You must remember the *customs then prevalent*: these change perpetually with the lapse of time; and the manners of antiquity were altogether distinct from those sanctioned by the fashion of the present day. Consider the *countries in which they lived.* Every country has a mode of operation, and habits peculiar to itself. Recollect the *persons to whom they wrote*: persons who were conversant with the metaphors employed, and with the facts recorded: persons who were contemporary with them, and who had the advantage of making appeals to things and to evidences which exist no longer. And while you call these things to your memory, do not forget *the changes* which have taken place in all these particulars.

'Our *second* remark shall relate to the SPIRIT in which the Bible should be read. Consult it divested so far as possible of prejudice, and with a sincere desire both to attain improvement, and to search out the truth. The investigation which we recommend lies equally between that inactivity which slumbers for ever over things acknowledged, and that impetuous temerity which relying upon its own powers disdains assistance, attempts a flight beyond the precincts of lawful subjects, and with licentious boldness pries into those "secret things which belong to God." Some float for ever on the surface of admitted truths, fearful to rise above the level over which they have hovered from the first moment of consciousness. These resemble those birds which feed upon the insects dancing on the water, who never rise into the air, but always skim the surface of the lake, on the borders of which they

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received life. Others, on bold, adventurous wing, rise into the trackless regions of mystery, till they sink from the pride of their elevation, perplexed and exhausted. These, by aiming at too much, lose every thing. Because they have attempted unsuccessfully to investigate that, which God has been pleased to put out of the reach of human comprehension, they will not believe any thing—they embrace a system of universal scepticism. So Noah's dove beheld on every side a boundless expansion of waters; and whether she rose or sunk, was equally bewildered, and found no rest for the sole of her foot. There is one point of difference, and that is, that she returned to the ark; but those whom we have described, too often are found to turn despisers, who wonder and perish. But the Christian is bold in investigating *all* that God has submitted to his researches, attempts every thing leaning on Almighty energy, and relies with implicit confidence upon the written word. So the eagle rises boldly into the air, keeping the sun in view, and builds her nest upon a rock.

'We would not have you, with the inactive and supine, always coast the shore: nor with the infidel venture into the boundless ocean without pilot, or compass, or ballast, or anchor: exposed equally to the quicksands, to the rocks, to the whirlpool, and to the tempest: but we are desirous that, like the christian, you should boldly face and patiently endure the storm, with the Bible as your compass, Hope as your anchor, God as your pilot, and Heaven as your country.'

Dr. Collyer having modestly expressed a wish to benefit by public criticism, we have endeavoured to render him some assistance in the notice which we have taken of his volume. Our object has been fairly to appreciate the value of his work; which, though defective in some parts, possesses no inconsiderable merit. To avoid the dryness of mere historical detail and comparison, he has been too liberal of declamation, and in some places exposes himself to the charge of egotism, bordering on a vain display of oratorical talents: on the whole, however, his course of lectures is well calculated for general perusal, and will serve to familiarize English readers with the historical evidences of revealed religion.

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ART. VI. *The Works, Literary, Moral, and Philosophical, of Thomas Percival, M.D. F.R.S., &c. &c.* To which are prefixed Memoirs of his Life and Writings, and a Selection from his Literary Correspondence. 8vo. 2 Vols. 1l. 1s. Boards. Johnson.

WE are informed, in a prefixed advertisement, that the only writings of Dr. Percival, which are now for the first time given to the public, are his inaugural dissertation, some additions to his medical ethics, a tribute to the memory of Mr. Bayley of Hope, and a selection from his correspondence.

Nearly one half of the first volume is occupied by an account of the life of the author, written by his son Dr. Edward Percival; and probably, by many readers, it will not be deemed the least interesting part. Being also the principal new matter, it will be to this portion that we shall chiefly confine our remarks.

The life of a man whose time was fully occupied by professional engagement does not admit of much variety of incident: but the present memoir is on several accounts deserving of our attention, as displaying an example of great mental excellence, and shewing how far a private individual, who is desirous of rendering himself useful to the community, has it in his power to accomplish his object. Dr. Percival was indebted for the first part of his education to the care of an elder sister, his parents having died while he was still in early childhood. After having gone through the regular routine of the grammar-school of his native town, Warrington, he entered as a student at the Academy which was established at that place under the patronage of the Dissenters. It appears that his family were originally members of the church of England; and it is probable that it was owing to the sentiments which he embraced during this part of his education that he became a Dissenter, and during the remainder of his life continued attached to sectarian principles. On leaving Warrington, he went to study medicine at Edinburgh; and, having attended the usual course of this university, he completed his education at Leyden. He married early, and settled in Manchester, where he continued to practise, on a very extensive scale, until the age of 64, when he died, after a short illness.

Of the few events which occurred to diversify the uniform tenor of professional duties, the principal are the occasions on which Dr. Percival interested himself respecting the literary and charitable institutions of his town and neighbourhood, or in promoting the more extensive schemes of philanthropy which concerned the public welfare. The management of the Warrington academy, and, after its decline, of a similar institution at Manchester, the philosophical society of that place, a college of arts which was attempted to be established, the erection of fever-wards and of a new jail, the abolition of the African trade, and the application which was made by the Dissenters for the repeal of the test-laws, are objects in which Dr. Percival engaged with a degree of ardour; and which evinced that he had a mind alive to every impression of benevolence, and disposed to embrace every opportunity of active exertion, in behalf of the cause of truth, justice, and liberality.

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As a practitioner of medicine, the subject of this memoir holds a high rank; higher, indeed, than it would be estimated from the perusal of his printed works. His merit consisted principally in those individual and personal qualities, which enabled him to excel in investigating the causes of disease, and in applying the appropriate means of cure. He did not profess to make discoveries in medicine, and his mind was of too correct a turn to be employed in forming hypotheses. Nearly the same remarks may be made on his medical as on his experimental writings; were we to read them without any reference to the period at which they were written, we should undervalue the merit of the author: but we must remember that they were composed in the infancy of the modern chemistry, that Dr. Percival had the sagacity to discern the importance of the new doctrines, and that he was one of the first who patronized the rising genius of Priestley. The parts of the volumes before us which will now be considered as the most valuable, and those which will always remain so, are the "Father's Instruction to his Children," and "the Medical Ethics;" which works possess intrinsic excellence, unconnected with times or circumstances. They reflect equal honour on the head and the heart of the author.

We have been considerably gratified by the composition of this biographical sketch, independently of the merits of its subject. It is well written, and affords a just picture of the character of the deceased; and without fulsome declamation, it exhibits that degree of partiality, for which every reader naturally makes an allowance when he is perusing the life of such a man as Dr. Percival, written by one of his children. We regret that the memoir is not published separately: it would meet with many purchasers who are already in possession of the Doctor's works; and we should wish the record of so much excellence to have the widest possible circulation.

Bos.

ART. VII. *Essay on the Morbid Anatomy of the Human Eye.* By James Wardrop, Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, &c. Edinburgh. 8vo. pp 159. and 7 plates. 1l. 4s. Boards. Murray. 1808.

ALTHOUGH so many treatises respecting the eye have been written, we have been unprovided with a work that afforded a full account of the morbid changes which this organ experiences in its different diseased conditions. To supply this deficiency is the object of Mr. Wardrop, and at the same time he has undertaken to illustrate his ideas by the assistance of engravings. The present volume contains only a small portion

portion of the whole system, and may be regarded as merely a specimen offered to the public; if it meet with their approbation, the author will be induced to prosecute his plan, and will describe the remaining diseases of the eyes, together with the appropriate treatment of them.

Mr. Wardrop begins by some judicious preliminary observations, in which he explains his ideas respecting the object which ought to be pursued by the anatomist, in his exposition of the different morbid changes which the body experiences. He grounds his remarks on the system of M. Bichat, who has so ingeniously arranged under different heads the elementary parts of which the body is composed. These parts present not only different textures, but possess different functions; and this difference is preserved as well in disease as in the state of health. 'Thus the serous membranes, which invest the lungs, the brain, the heart, the abdominal viscera, have one common character, when affected with any specific disease; so also have the mucous membranes, whether we trace them in the mouth, the nose, the vagina, urethra, or covering the eye-ball; and the same is observable of every individual texture which enters into the composition of our bodies.'

This similarity of physical structure, and of functions, gives rise to one principle which may be employed in the classification of diseases; they may be arranged according to the particular structure which they occupy, whether mucous, serous, cellular, &c., and according to the functions which the organ performs:—but, besides the diseases that derive their character from the nature of the parts which they attack, there are others, such as cancer and scrofula, which are possessed of specific symptoms, and which affect indiscriminately all the different kinds of texture. From these considerations, Mr. Wardrop arranges the diseases of the eyes under two general heads; first, those which belong to parts of a particular structure, and 2dly, those which possess a specific character:

'Under the first class will be comprehended, the diseases of the Cornea, Iris, Aqueous, Vitreous, and Crystalline humours, Optic Nerve and Retina, Choroid coat, Sclerotic coat, Conjunctiva and Cellular membrane, Tarsi and Palpebræ, Lacrymal gland and Caruncle.

'Under the second class will be included, Rheumatism, Cancer, Scrofula, Lues Venerea, Exanthematous Ophthalmia, &c.'

The diseases of the cornea are all that are comprehended in this volume.

After a description of the cornea, the author proceeds to treat separately on each of the diseases to which it is subject, begin-

beginning with inflammation. In consequence of the complicated structure of the cornea, it being covered externally by a mucous, and lined internally by a serous membrane, the inflammation of it is capable of assuming three distinct modifications, according as it derives its origin from one or the other of these parts or from the substance of the cornea itself. Perhaps Mr. W. may be thought to attempt a division more minute than the facts will warrant, when he undertakes to form a diagnosis between the inflammation of the different parts of the cornea. He has, however, stated some circumstances that appear to sanction his opinion; and although in many, perhaps in all, cases of inflamed cornea, its different parts must be subject to disease, yet we think that his distinctions are not without foundation.

The remaining diseases of the cornea then pass under review: but we shall merely give a list of their names, since it would lead us too much into minute detail to attempt to follow the author through all his descriptions. Besides inflammation of the cornea, its diseases are pterygium, fleshy excrescences, pustules, abcesses, ulcers, wounds, foreign bodies adhering to it, ossification, specks, staphyloma, alterations in its shape, and effusions of blood between its lamellæ. Our professional readers will perceive that, although the list may appear long, it is not unnecessarily extended, since each of the diseases enumerated is acknowleged to exist, and to be sufficiently distinct to require a separate description.

As to the general merits of this work, they are certainly such as intitle it to commendation; and since they induce us to form a favourable opinion of the knowlege and abilities of the author, we feel anxious that he should complete his plan. The engravings are extremely beautiful, and appear highly characteristic. We must, however, disapprove the unnecessarily expensive form in which the volume is printed. The rage for fine books we always deprecate; and when works of science, particularly in the medical branch, are given in a tawdry dress, it becomes a cause of very serious concern, that the grand object of utility should be sacrificed to feelings of fashion or vanity.

Bos.

ART. VIII. *A Treatise on Hernia*; being the Essay which gained the prize offered by the Royal College of Surgeons in the Year 1806. Illustrated with plates. By W. Lawrence, Member of that College, &c. 8vo. 9s. Boards. Callow.

THIS is a subject which, during the last few years, has very particularly engaged the attention of professional men; several valuable treatises on the different kinds of hernia have been published; and considerable improvements have been made both in the anatomy and the pathology of the disease. The object of Mr. Lawrence in this work is, however, somewhat different from that of any of his predecessors. They have, for the most part, written with the view of announcing some new ideas respecting the nature of the disease, or some anatomical discovery in the structure of the parts; or they have given the result of their own experience concerning the operation of particular remedies. The plan which the present author adopts is rather to illustrate the opinions of others, than to bring forwards any which are original; and, in the practical part of his treatise, he aims more at drawing a comparison between the authorities which have preceded him, and at endeavouring to reconcile their differences, than at laying down a line of conduct solely deduced from his own practice.

The design of Mr. L. will, we apprehend, be generally approved, and the execution of it is such as merits considerable commendation. The style is easy and perspicuous, the anatomical descriptions are particularly clear, and the histories of the complaint are comprehensive and characteristic. In confirmation of our favourable judgment, we shall quote the account which Mr. Lawrence gives of the disease when it arrives at the state of strangulation:

'In an incarcerated intestinal rupture, the tumour, which was before indolent, becomes painful; the pain is most acute at the strictured portion, and extends from that situation over the rest of the swelling and abdomen; these parts becoming at the same time swoln and tense. The evacuations per anum are entirely suppressed, and nausea and vomiting ensue: all the contents of the stomach, and afterwards those of the intestines, down to the stricture, being rejected. These symptoms, which often remit for a considerable period, are accompanied by a proportionate derangement of the whole system. There is great anxiety and restlessness, with a small and hard pulse, and coldness of the extremities: after a time hiccough supervenes, the pulse becomes so small as to be hardly sensible, the respiration is weak, and the whole body is covered by a cold and clammy sweat. Mortification now takes place; it begins in the contents of the rupture and extends to the containing

ing and neighbouring parts. The degree and intensity of the symptoms are modified by various circumstances, as the age and strength of the patient, the nature of the strangulation, &c. The duration of the complaint, from its first commencement to the termination in mortification or death, is also extremely various.'

Mr. L. properly remarks that the same train of symptoms will occasionally exist, when the omentum only is included in the stricture, and when no part of the intestine is protruded. Hence it follows that the disease originates rather from an inflammatory affection of the parts, than from a mechanical obstruction of the canal; a circumstance which, we think, has not always received sufficient attention, and which must in some measure influence our practice.

The chapter on the treatment of strangulated hernia is well composed, and contains much useful information. It consists principally in appreciating the value of the different remedies which have been suggested, all of which rest on the authority of great names, and which are yet, in some respects, inconsistent with each other. The operation of taxis, (as it is called,) blood-letting, purgatives, the tobacco-glister, anti-spasmodics, and cold and warm applications, are each separately considered; and the general conclusions are, that too much time must not be spent over the attempts at manual reduction; that bleeding is proper, or not, according to the peculiar nature of the case and constitution of the patient; that cold applications are sometimes serviceable, but that the tobacco-glister is the remedy most worthy of dependence; and that, should this fail, the operation must be performed without delay.

Mr. L.'s anatomical description of the different species of herniæ is clearly laid down; all the observations that have been successively made on the parts are brought into one view; and the merit of the different discoveries is fairly attributed to their respective authors. This is a very interesting portion of the work, and displays to advantage both the anatomical skill of Mr. Lawrence and his acquaintance with the writings of those who have preceded him in this department of his profession. His observations are confessedly taken, for the most part, from the works of others, but some of them are original, and we find enough of this description to prove that he is master of his subject. Of this kind are his remarks on the epigastric artery, its direction, the relation which it bears to the opening, and the probable effects of dividing it. A case is mentioned of an inguinal hernia in a female, on the inside of the epigastric artery, the only one on record.

We were much gratified by the perusal of the chapter on 'the treatment of hernia when the intestine has mortified.' Under these critical and alarming circumstances, the operator finds himself placed in a situation in which he feels doubtful how to act, and yet has no time for deliberation. When only a small spot has become affected, the advice of Mr. Lawrence is to return it untouched into the abdomen; since the part will remain in contact with the external opening, and will adhere to it: so that, if the natural passage be not restored, still we need not fear that the intestine will slip into any other situation. We think that the author argues very sensibly against the probability of the contents of the canal being discharged into the abdomen.—In the still more deplorable state of the patient, when a complete cylinder of the inestine has become gangrenous, Mr. L. advises the same method of treatment, although in opposition to the opinion of many of the most eminent surgeons. In our judgment he displays his good sense in so doing; the mechanical expedients that have been devised have always appeared to us highly exceptionable; and probably the greatest part of them are merely inventions of the imagination, which have never been put into practice.

'After thus objecting (says Mr. L) to the various modes of treatment, which have been proposed for a mortified intestine, it remains for me to mention the conduct which a surgeon should pursue in such a case. This is to dilate the stricture, and to leave the subsequent progress of the cure entirely to nature. The sloughs will be cast off; the ends of the gut are retained by the adhesive process in a state of apposition to each other, the most favourable for their union; the wound contracts, and often completely closes, so that the continuity of the alimentary canal is perfectly re-established. The interference of art can only be prejudical in this process. It is difficult for us to conceive, how the intestinal canal can become restored, after considerable portions of it have perished: yet indubitable proofs of this fact exist, and induce us to place confidence in the resources of nature. Almost all the numerous instances of recovery from mortified hernia, which are recorded in the annals of surgery, took place where the surgeon was contented to remain a quiet spectator of the process, without interfering with any artificial means of uniting the divided intestine. Perhaps, the only step, which would be justifiable, is that of making an incision in the sphacelated part; this will promote the evacuation of the alimentary canal, and afford considerable relief.'

We have only farther to remark that Mr. Lawrence's work is rendered more valuable by the numerous and accurate references with which it is furnished.

Bos.

ART. IX. *Memoirs of Captain George Carleton,* an English officer, including Anecdotes of the War in Spain under the Earl of Peterborough, and many interesting Particulars relating to the Manners of the Spaniards in the Beginning of the last Century. Written by himself. 8vo. pp. 463. 12s. Boards. Printed at Edinburgh, for Constable and Co., and Murray, London. 1808.

FEW memoirs more interesting or more instructive to military men have appeared in this or any other country, than these details of the respectable Captain Carleton. They refer principally to transactions in which the author, who was unquestionably a person of accurate observation and sound reflection, had participated, and of which he was an eye-witness, a circumstance that greatly enhances their value; — and they particularly relate to the exploits of the celebrated Earl of Peterborough in Spain, during the war for the Spanish succession, a correct and simple narrative of which is sufficient to inspire young minds with the most heroic sentiments. To those who have made choice of the profession of arms, this narrative points out the true road to martial fame; and it furnishes the most profitable and instructive lessons, by means both of similitude and contrast, to such of them as may be disposed to study the sublimer parts of military science; instead of wasting their time on an unprofitable application to those trifling minutiæ, which cannot be practised in the field or in the face of an enemy, but to which the attention of officers of the present day is so much directed.

It must be allowed that seldom has any man ever surpassed the noble and generous Lord Peterborough in variety of contrivance and stratagem, in fertility of resources both military and political, in celerity of movement, in presence of mind, in boldness of enterprise, in promptitude and correctness of decision, in prudence of arrangement, and in judgment in executing measures when once they had been adopted. His successes in Spain, when the circumstances in which he acted are fairly taken into consideration, appear not only wonderful but such as even exceed belief; and they must with justice make him be regarded as one of those rare and extraordinary characters, which very seldom appear in the world, and are scarcely to be found even among the heroes of Plutarch. Though the service on which he was employed, namely that of placing Charles of Austria on the throne of Spain, was even more romantic than it was splendid, he would have infallibly succeeded in the attempt, had he not been arrested in the career of his atchievements by the influence of envy, false and malevolent insinuations, and detestable court-intrigue: which caused him to be superseded in his command by a General,

who, like some of those with whom we have lately been blessed, was a steady thorough-bred parade officer; who paid a decorous and formal attention to the customary rules of discipline, but who understood his profession merely as a trade, not as a science. Such a man was peculiarly improper to be employed in the field against the Duke of Berwick; who was distinguished by humanity, contrivance, magnanimity, and genius; and who was above being a slave to the common-place maxims of warfare. Of this truth, the battle of Almanza in 1707 was a melancholy proof.

The feats of Charles Earl of Peterborough, the principal character in these memoirs, were indeed of a nature nearly unaccountable, and might have been regarded by people even less superstitious than the Spaniards as almost miraculous. With a handful of men, he not only took the Fort of Monjouick, which had uniformly been regarded by the natives as impregnable, but also the strong and extensive city of Barcelona, which in the ordinary course of warfare could not have been effectually invested by fewer than thirty thousand men. He afterward relieved this very city with a small force, in the face of a powerful and numerous army; whom he obliged to decamp precipitately, leaving their battering train of artillery, and their ammunition, stores, and provisions, as well as their sick and wounded. With less than half the number of troops, he compelled the Duke of Anjou to retire before him, and finally drove him out of Spain, at the head of a French army twenty-five thousand strong. He distinguished himself both as an Admiral and as a General. He took walled towns with dragoons; and he procured money for the Commander of the Portuguese troops from the bankers of Genoa, without having it in his power to offer them security. He succeeded, by his wonderful dexterity and skill, in gaining possession of Catalonia, and of the kingdoms of Valencia, Arragon, and Majorca, together with part of Murcia and Castile; and he thus opened the way for the march of the Earl of Galway, (a blundering French refugee, who supplanted him in the command,) from Portugal to Madrid, without the least resistance or molestation. Such indeed was the universality of his genius, that he was not less successful in conciliating the natives, than in carrying his daring and adventurous enterprises into execution. Like a truly wise and virtuous man, he on every occasion restrained the excesses of his troops; respected the religion, the laws, and even the prejudices of the Spaniards; and thus, though in their eyes he was a heretic, he became much more popular among them, than even the catholic prince whom he was endeavouring to place on their throne.

throne. Swift, in his *Conduct of the Allies*, speaks of him in these words: "The only General, who by a series of conduct and fortune almost miraculous, had nearly put us into possession of Spain, was left wholly unsupported, exposed to the envy of his rivals, disappointed by the caprices of a young unexperienced prince under the guidance of a rapacious German ministry, and at last called home in discontent."

When the thanks of the House of Peers were returned to him in June 1710—11, for his services in Spain, the Lord Chancellor addressed him in the following words: "Had your Lordship's wise counsels, particularly your advice at the council of war in Valencia, been pursued in the following campaign, the fatal battle of Almanza and our great misfortunes, which have since happened in Spain, had been prevented, and the design upon Toulon might have happily succeeded." Besides his transcendent talents as a warrior and negotiator, this truly extraordinary man, to whom nature had been prodigal, possessed literary acquirements greatly surpassing those that could reasonably have been expected in a person of so much activity of life. His characteristic celerity in travelling is finely and emphatically described by Swift, in his Journal to Stella, 24th June, 1711.

As to Captain Carleton himself, he observes in his dedication that it was his fortune in his juvenile years *Musas cum Marte commutare*; and that to prevent the small advantage which he had reaped from the change, after a series of long, severe, and dangerous services, from being imputed to a want of merit on his part, he had written these memoirs, and left the world to judge of his deserts. He very truly affirms that they are neither set forth by any fictitious stories, nor embellished with rhetorical flourishes, since plain truth is most becoming the character of an old soldier. The simplicity and modesty, indeed, which reign throughout them, sufficiently evince the truth of this declaration, and even give occasional dignity to his narratives of important events. He saw a variety of actions both by sea and land. After the Dutch war, which was proclaimed in 1672, he not only served under the command of the Prince of Orange while he was Generalissimo of the Dutch forces, but also during the whole of his reign as King of Great Britain.—He was born at Ewelme in Oxfordshire, and descended from an antient and honourable family; Lord Dudley Carleton, who died secretary of state to Charles I. being his great uncle; and in the same reign his father being employed as envoy at the court of Madrid, while his uncle Sir Dudley Carleton was ambassador to the States of Holland.

England was by treaty obliged to assist France against the Dutch with 6000 troops; and as soon as the Duke of York (afterward James II.) was declared Admiral of the English fleet, it was reckoned a mark of spirit in the young nobility and gentry to attend him. The author of these memoirs, therefore, then about twenty years of age, in imitation of others entered himself as a volunteer on board the *London*, commanded by Sir Edward Spragge, Vice-Admiral of the Red. He was soon afterward present at the naval engagement between the combined fleets of England and France and the Dutch in Solebay, which took place on the 28th of May, and was obstinately contested from nine in the morning till ten at night. Of the combat he gives a very clear and distinct account; observing, however, 'that the French acted more as spectators than as parties, and seemed unwilling to be too much upon the offensive for fear of offending themselves." The Duke, having had two ships disabled under him, went on board the *London* about four in the afternoon; remaining in her during the rest of the action, and till next morning, though De Ruyter directed his fire particularly at her, as if determined to blow her out of the water. Here Mr. Carleton had an opportunity of observing accurately and minutely his Royal Highness's conduct; and he makes the most unequivocal and honourable mention of his courage and intrepidity He states also two circumstances which are deserving of notice. He says that our fleet, in sailing from the Nore to join that of the French, who were anchored at St. Helens under the command of Count d'Estrée, had nearly been intercepted at the mouth of the River by De Ruyter, who had notice of our intentions; and that they had a narrow escape by means of a thick fog, which enabled them to pass Dover before he was aware of it. He likewise observes that the Duke of York was in some measure and would have been completely surprised by the Dutch Admiral, had there been only a moderate breeze; adding that, although there was so little air stirring that our Admirals could see the enemy's fleet making towards them long before it got near to them, they found great difficulty in forming their ships into a line of battle, so as to be in readiness to receive it.

The few observations, which the author makes respecting the battle of Seneff, between the confederate army under the Prince of Orange and that of the French commanded by the Prince of Condé, are not only sensible and instructive, but shew that a General, after having obtained an important advantage, may suffer it to be snatched out of his hands by too much eagerness and heat of temper. Mr. Carleton was in the

rear-guard, which had been cut off by the French, who fell to plundering the baggage; and having made his escape to an eminence,

'It was (he says) from that advantageous situation, that I presently discovered that the Imperialists, who led the van, had now joined the main body. And, I confess, it was with an almost inexpressible pleasure, that I beheld, about three o'clock, with what intrepid fury they fell upon the enemy. In short, both armies were universally engaged, and with great obstinacy disputed the victory till eleven at night. At which time the French, being pretty well surfeited, made their retreat. Nevertheless, to secure it by a stratagem, they left their lighted matches hanging in the hedges, and waving with the air, to conceal it from the confederate army.

'About two hours after, the confederate forces followed the example of their enemies, and drew off. And though neither army had much reason to boast, yet, as the Prince of Orange remained last in the field, and the French had lost what they before had gained, the glory of the day fell to the Prince of Orange; who, although but twenty-four years of age, had the suffrage of friend and foe, of having played the part of an old and experienced officer.

'There were left that day on the field of battle, by a general computation, not less than eighteen thousand men on both sides, over and above those who died of their wounds: the loss being pretty equal, only the French carried off most prisoners. Prince Waldeck was shot through the arm, which I was near enough to be an eye-witness of; and my much lamented friend, Sir Walter Vane, was carried off dead. A wound in the arm was all the mark of honour, that I as yet could boast of, though our cannon in the defiles had slain many near me.

'The Prince of Condé (as we were next day informed) lay all that night under a hedge, wrapped in his cloak; and, either from the mortification of being disappointed in his hopes of victory, or from a reflection of the disservice, which his own natural over-heat of temper had drawn upon him, was almost inconsolable many days after. And thus ended the famous battle of Seneff.

'But though common vogue has given it the name of a battle, in my weak opinion, it might rather deserve that of a confused skirmish; all things having been forcibly carried on without regularity, or even design enough to allow it any higher denomination: for, as I have said before, notwithstanding I was advantageously stationed for observation, I found it very often impossible to distinguish one party from another. And this was more remarkably evident on the part of the Prince of Orange, whose valour and vigour having led him into the middle of the enemy, and being then sensible of his error, by a peculiar presence of mind, gave the word of command in French, which he spoke perfectly well. But the French soldiers, who took him for one of their own generals, making answer, that their powder was all spent, it afforded matter of instruction to him to persist in his attack; at the same time, that it gave him a lesson of caution, to withdraw himself as soon as he could, to his own troops.'

After

After the peace of Nimeguen, which was concluded in 1678, the regiment in which the author served was stationed on garrison-duty at the Grave for nearly four years, the soldiers being mostly employed in working on the fortifications. It was there, he informs us, and on that occasion, that he imbibed the first rudiments of fortification, and the practical part of the engineer-profession, which in his more advanced years were of great service to him.

On the breaking out of Monmouth's rebellion after the death of Charles II., the English and Scotch regiments in the Dutch service were ordered over to England, and encamped on Hounslow Heath. Mr. Carleton had not thus been long returned to his native land, when he received a commission from King James as a Lieutenant in a newly raised regiment, under the command of Colonel Tufton, brother to the Earl of Thanet. After James had abdicated the throne, and the Prince of Orange had accepted the administration of affairs in this country, the author was employed with his regiment in Scotland, chiefly in the Highlands; during which service having distinguished himself, he was, in consequence of a recommendation mentioning some particulars of his conduct from Sir Thomas Levingston, (afterward Earl of Tiviot,) promoted to a company in Brigadier Tiffin's regiment lying in garrison at Portsmouth, to which place he immediately repaired.—About two months afterward, this regiment, among many others, was shipped off under the Duke of Leinster on a secret expedition; the object of which, though unknown to the General himself till he opened his commission at sea, having been intrusted to *a female politician on land*, was soon made known to the enemy; a circumstance which rendered it necessary to countermand their orders, before they reached the place of their destination. They were accordingly directed to land at Ostend; and not long after their landing, the famous battle of Steenkirk was fought: of which, and of some remarkable circumstances attending it, Captain Carleton gives the following short and interesting account:

'Soon after this, happened that memorable battle at Steenkirk, which, as very few at that time could dive into the reason of, and mistaken accounts of it have passed for authentic, I will mention somewhat more particularly: the undertaking was bold, and, as many thought, bolder than was consistent with the character of the wise undertaker. Nevertheless, the French having taken Namur, and, as the malecontents alleged, in the very sight of a superior army, and nothing having been done by land of any moment, things were blown into such a dangerous fermentation, by a malicious and lying spirit, that King William found himself under a necessity of attempting something that might appease the murmurs of the people. He knew

knew very well, though spoke in the senate, that it was not true, that his forces at the siege of Namur exceeded those of the enemy; no man could be more afflicted than he at the overflowing of the Mehaigne, from the continual rains, which obstructed the relief he had designed for that important place; yet, since his maligners made an ill use of these false topics, to insinuate that he had no mind to put an end to the war, he was resolved to evince the contrary, by shewing them that he was not afraid to venture his life for the better obtaining what was so much desired

'To that purpose, receiving intelligence that the Duke of Luxemburg lay strongly encompassed at Steenkirk, near Enghien, (though he was sensible he must pass through many defiles to engage him; and that the many thickets between the two armies would frequently afford him new difficulties,) he resolved there to attack him Our troops at first were forced to hew out their passage for the horse; and there was no one difficulty that his imagination had drawn, that was lessened by experience; and yet so prosperous were his arms at the beginning, that our troops had made themselves masters of several pieces of the enemy's cannon. But the farther he advanced, the ground growing straiter, so strait as not to admit his armies being drawn up in battalia, the troops behind could not give timely succour to those engaged, and the cannon we had taken was forcibly left behind, in order to make a good retreat. The French had lost all their courage in the onset; for though they had too fair an opportunity, they did not think fit to pursue it; or, at least, did it very languidly. However, the malecontents at home, I remember, grew very well pleased after this; for, so long as they had but a battle for their money, like true Englishmen, lost or won, they were contented.

'Several causes, I remember, were assigned for this miscarriage, as they called it: some there were who were willing to lay it upon the Dutch; and allege a saying of one of their generals, who, receiving orders to relieve some English and Scotch that were overpowered, was heard to say, "Damn them, since they love fighting, let them have their bellies full." But I should rather impute the disappointment to the great loss of so many of our bravest officers at the very first onset. General Mackay, Colonel Lanier, the Earl of Angus, with both his field-officers, Sir Robert Douglas, Colonel Hodges, and many others, falling, it was enough to put a very considerable army into confusion. I remember one particular action of Sir Robert Douglas, that I should think myself to blame should I omit: seeing his colours on the other side the hedge, in the hands of the enemy, he leaped over, slew the officer that had them, and then threw them over the hedge to his company; redeeming his colours at the expence of his life. Thus, the Scotch commander improved upon the Roman General; for the brave Posthumius cast his standard in the middle of the enemy, for his soldiers to retrieve; but Douglas retrieved his from the middle of the enemy, without any assistance, and cast it back to his soldiers to retain, after he had so bravely rescued it out of the hands of the enemy.'

Captain C. next went with his corps to Dixmuyd, where he was for some time employed in fortifying that place; and after

after he had brought the intended works into a tolerably respectable state, the troops were ordered to re-imbark for England. On landing, they marched to Ipswich, had their winter-quarters in that town, and in the Spring went to London to do duty in the Tower. Hence the regiment was removed to Flanders; and Captain C.'s description of and remarks on the Prince of Vaudemont's retreat from Watergaem are well calculated for conveying useful military instruction:

'While King William was engaged in the glorious and important siege of Namur, Prince Vaudemont being posted at Watergaem, with about fifty battalions, and as many squadrons, the Mareschal Villeroy laid a design to attack him with the whole French army. The Prince imagined no less, therefore he prepared accordingly, giving us orders to fortify our camp, as well as the little time we had for it would permit. Those orders were pursued; nevertheless, I must confess, it was beyond the reach of my little reason to account for our so long stay in the sight of an army so much superior to ours. The Prince, in the whole, could hardly muster thirty thousand; and Villeroy was known to value himself upon having one hundred thousand effective men. However, the Prince provisionally sent away all our baggage that very morning to Ghent, and still made shew as if he resolved to defend himself to the last extremity, in our little entrenchments. The enemy on their side began to surround us; and in their motions for that purpose, blew up little bags of gun-powder, to give the readier notice how far they had accomplished it. Another captain, with myself, being placed on the right with one hundred men, (where I found Monsieur Montal endeavouring, if possible, to get behind us,) I could easily observe, they had so far attained their aim of encompassing us, as to the very fashion of a horse's shoe. This made me fix my eyes so intently upon the advancing enemy, that I never minded what my friends were doing behind me; though I afterwards found that they had been fileing off so very artfully and privately, by that narrow opening of the horse shoe, that when the enemy imagined us past a possibility of escape, our little army at once, and of a sudden, was ready to disappear. There was a large wood on the right of our army, through which lay the road to Ghent, not broader than to admit of more than four to march a-breast. Down this the Prince had slid his forces, except to that very small party which the captain and myself commanded, and which was designedly left to bring up the rear. Nor did we stir till Captain Collier, then aid de camp to his brother, now Earl of Portmore, came with the word of command for us to draw off.

'When Villeroy was told of our retreat, he was much surprised, as thinking it a thing utterly impossible. However, at last, being sensible of the truth of it, he gave orders for our rear to be attacked; but we kept firing from ditch to ditch, and hedge to hedge, till night came upon us; and so our little army got clear of its gigantic enemy with very inconsiderable loss. However, the French failed not, in their customary way, to express the sense of their vexation at this

this disappointment, with fire and sword in the neighbourhood round. Thus Prince Vaudemont acquired more glory by that retreat than an entire victory could have given him; and it was not I confess, the least part of satisfaction in my life, that myself had a share of honour under him, to bring off the rear at that his glorious retreat at Arseel.'

The author's account of the courteous, facetious, and officious stranger who joined their train of artillery, on their march to Anderlech, shews how extremely jealous all people ought to be of such persons in time of war; and it is perhaps sufficient to make it appear that our government, at the present moment, is not acting the wisest part in suffering this country, under existing circumstances, to abound so much as it does with foreigners.

After the death of King William, his successor and consort Queen Anne adhered to his counsels and pursued his measures. On the recommendation of Lord Cutts, who had distinguished himself at Venlo, Ruremond, and Hochstet, and who on his arrival from Germany was appointed General of all Her Majesty's forces in Ireland, the Earl of Peterborough carried Captain Carleton with him on his expedition to Spain. They first went to Lisbon; and the Earl, after having exchanged two regiments of foot there, with the consent of Lord Galoway, received the Archduke of Austria and all who chose to follow him on board the fleet, and transported them at his own expence to Barcelona, for which he never received any reimbursement or remuneration. On leaving Lisbon, he sailed to join the squadron under Sir Cloudsley Shovel, which he met at the appointed station off Tangier. Having formed this junction, he made the best of his way towards Gibraltar, where he staid no longer than to take two regiments on board out of that garrison, in lieu of two which were sent on shore out of the fleet; and here he found the Prince of Hesse, who immediately took the resolution of accompanying the Archduke on that expedition.

It was an unfortunate circumstance for both of these Princes, as well as for the service, that they accompanied the Earl of Peterborough; who, had it not been for the counteraction which he experienced from them, and by orders from home in consequence of senseless representations by Mr. Crow, (the Queen's agent in those parts,) in the prosecution of his own wise measures, and for the necessity under which he felt himself of most reluctantly carrying other plans into execution which he entirely disapproved, would have infallibly completed the business on which he was sent, and have placed the Archduke on the throne of Spain. Knowing that King Philip and the Royal Family at Madrid had with them only a few horse,

horse, barely sufficient for serving as guards, and those in a bad condition, it was his intention, after having secured Valencia and the towns adjacent, (which were all ready to submit to and declare for King Charles,) to commence his march immediately for the metropolis; on which march he could have been supplied not only with horses and mules in abundance, but also with the necessary carriages for his artillery, baggage, and ammunition. Sensible of there being no forces in the middle parts of Spain to oppose his progress, and that the principal part of their regular troops were in the city of Barcelona and the remainder on the frontiers of Portugal, he perceived that he could immediately drive Philip out of his capital, and reduce him to the necessity of quitting Spain altogether, or of retiring either towards Portugal or Catalonia; in either of which last cases, Lord P. would have the open country at his command, and be enabled to prevent any communication between bodies so far separated from each other as the frontiers of Portugal and Barcelona. The Earl was obliged, however, to abandon this judicious plan of operations; and, in compliance with the repeated desires of the Archduke, the importunities of the Prince of Hesse, and his instructions from England, to proceed to the bay of Barcelona: though he knew that this city was not only fortified with bastions, but also secured on the eastern side by a horn-work, and on the western by a very strong fortress called Monjouick; that it was a place of such extent that thirty thousand men would scarcely suffice for forming the lines of circumvallation; and that it had actually resisted for many months an army of that force. On arriving there, he found that the boasted promises of assistance made by the Prince of Hesse, and the representations by Mr. Crow of co-operation on the part of the Catalans, were fallacious and delusive. Independently of the strength of the place, its garrison was much more numerous than the little army with which he was required to attack it. Under these circumstances, six several councils of war rejected the siege as impracticable, and a species of madness; the Dutch General in particular declaring, "that he would not obey even the commands of the Earl of Peterborough, if he should order the sacrifice of the troops under him in so unjustifiable a manner without the consent of a council of war."

Such was the perplexing situation of this nobleman before Barcelona: impossibilities proposed; no expedients to be accepted; the Archduke and the Prince of Hesse reproaching; councils of war rejecting; and the Dutch General declaring that he would withhold the assistance of his troops. It was too late for him to say that he never would have taken

the Archduke on board, or given him the least hope of ascending the Spanish throne, if he could have supposed it possible that he should not have been left at liberty to pursue his own designs according to his own judgment; and, far from being of that stubborn and unmanageable turn of mind which generally indicates ignorance, he was ever solicitous about the honour of his country. These difficulties, then, great as they were, instead of discouraging him, set every faculty of his mind at work; and his natural sagacity suggested to him the only probable or even possible means of success. His intentions, however, he kept entirely unknown to his friends as well as his enemies; for he was as remarkable for secrecy, when necessary, as for other eminent qualities.

If all circumstances, indeed, be taken into consideration, the attack and capture of Monjouick and Barcelona may justly be regarded as among the most singular atchievements recorded in history; and if any officer or other person, at all acquainted with the nature of military operations and the difficulties attending them, will look at a plan of those places while he is reading the following truly interesting account of the taking of the former of them, which was soon followed by the surrender of the latter, he will be at a loss whether to admire most the boldness of the enterprize, or the judgment and ability with which it was conducted:

'The Earl having made his proper dispositions, and delivered out his orders, began his march in the evening, with twelve hundred foot and two hundred horse, which, of necessity, were to pass by the quarters of the Prince of Hesse. That Prince, on their appearance, was told, that the General was come to speak with him; and, being brought into his apartment, the Earl acquainted him, that he had at last resolved upon an attempt against the enemy; adding, that now, if he pleased, he might be a judge of their behaviour, and see whether his officers and soldiers had deserved that character which he had so liberally given them. The Prince made answer, that he had always been ready to take his share; but could hardly believe that troops marching that way could make any attempt against the enemy to satisfaction. However, without further discourse, he called for his horse.

'Brigadier Stanhope and Mr. Methuen, (now Sir Paul,) were the General's particular friends, and those he most consulted, and most confided in; yet he never imparted this resolution of his to either of them; for he was not willing to engage them in a design so dangerous, and where there was so little hope of success; rather choosing to reserve them as persons most capable of giving advice and assistance in the confusion, great enough already, which yet must have been greater, if any accident had happened to himself. And I have very good reason to believe, that the motive, which mainly engaged the Earl of Peterborow in this enterprise, was to satisfy

satisfy the Prince of Hesse and the world, that his diffidence proceeded from his concern for the troops committed to his charge, and not for his own person. On the other hand, the great characters of the two gentlemen just mentioned are so well known, that it will easily gain credit, that the only way the General could take to prevent their being of the party, was to conceal it from them, as he did from all mankind, even from the Archduke himself. And certainly there never was a more universal surprise, than when the firing was heard next morning from Monjouick.

' But I now proceed to give an exact account of this great action; of which no person, that I have heard of, ever yet took upon him to deliver to posterity the glorious particulars; and yet the consequences and events, by what follows, will appear so great, and so very extraordinary, that few, if any, had they had it in their power, would have denied themselves the pleasure, or the world the satisfaction, of knowing it.

' The troops, which marched all night along the foot of the mountains, arrived two hours before day under the hill of Monjouick, not a quarter of a mile from the outward works: for this reason, it was taken for granted, whatever the design was which the General had proposed to himself, that it would be put in execution before day-light; but the Earl of Peterborow was now pleased to inform the officers of the reasons why he chose to stay till the light appeared. He was of opinion that any success would be impossible, unless the enemy came into the outward ditch under the bastions of the second inclosure; but that if they had time allowed them to come thither, there being no palisadoes, our men, by leaping in upon them, after receipt of their first fire, might drive them into the upper works; and following them close, with some probability, might force them, under that confusion, into the inward fortifications.

' Such were the General's reasons then and there given; after which, having promised ample rewards to such as discharged their duty well, a lieutenant, with thirty men, was ordered to advance towards the bastion nearest the town; and a captain, with fifty men, to support him. After the enemy's fire, they were to leap into the ditch; and their orders were to follow them close, if they retired into the upper works: nevertheless, not pursue them farther, if they made into the inner fort; but to endeavour to cover themselves within the gorge of the bastion.

' A lieutenant and a captain, with the like number of men, and the same orders, were commanded to a demi-bastion, at the extremity of the fort towards the west, which was above musket-shot from the inward fortification. Towards this place the wall, which was cut into the rock, was not faced for about twenty yards; and here our own men got up, where they found three pieces of cannon upon a platform, without any men to defend them.

' Those appointed to the bastion towards the town, were sustained by two hundred men; with which the General and Prince went in person. The like number, under the directions of Colonel Southwell, were to sustain the attack towards the west: and about five hundred men were left under the command of a Dutch colonel, whose

whose orders were to assist, where, in his own judgment, he should think most proper; and these were drawn up between the two parties appointed to begin the assault. My lot was on the side where the Prince and Earl were in person; and where we sustained the only loss from the first fire of the enemy.

'Our men, though quite exposed, and though the glacis was all escarped upon the live rock, went on with an undaunted courage; and, immediately after the first fire of the enemy, all, that were not killed or wounded, leaped in, *pel-mel*, amongst the enemy; who, being thus boldly attacked, and seeing others pouring in upon them, retired in great confusion; and some one way, some another, ran into the inward works.

'There was a large port in the flank of the principal bastion, towards the north east, and a covered way, through which the General and the Prince of Hesse followed the flying forces; and by that means became possessed of it. Luckily enough, here lay a number of great stones in the gorge of the bastion, for the use of the fortification; with which we made a sort of breast-work, before the enemy recovered of their amaze, or made any considerable fire upon us from their inward fort which commanded the upper part of that bastion.

'We were afterwards informed, that the commander of the citadel, expecting but one attack, had called off the men from the most distant and western part of the fort, to that side which was next the town; upon which our men got into a demi-bastion in the most extreme part of the fortification. Here they got possession of three pieces of cannon, with hardly any opposition; and had leisure to cast up a little entrenchment, and to make use of the guns they had taken to defend it. Under this situation, the enemy, when drove into the inward fort, were exposed to our fire from those places we were possessed of, in case they offered to make any sally, or other attempt against us. Thus, we every moment became better and better prepared against any effort of the garrison. And, as they could not pretend to assail us without evident hazard, so nothing remained for us to do till we could bring up our artillery and mortars. Now it was that the General sent for the thousand men under Brigadier Stanhope's command, which he had posted at a convent, half way between the town and Monjouick.

'There was almost a total cessation of fire, the men on both sides being under cover. The General was in the upper part of the bastion; the Prince of Hesse below, behind a little work at the point of the bastion, whence he could only see the heads of the enemy over the parapet of the inward fort. Soon after an accident happened which cost that gallant Prince his life.

'The enemy had lines of communication between Barcelona and Monjouick. The governor of the former, upon hearing the firing from the latter, immediately sent four hundred dragoons on horse-back, under orders, that two hundred dismounting should reinforce the garrison, and the other two hundred should return with their horses back to the town.

'When those two hundred dragoons were accordingly got into the inward fort, unseen by any of our men, the Spaniards, waving their hats over their heads, repeated over and over, *Viva el Rey, Viva.* This the Prince of Hesse unfortunately took for a signal of their desire to surrender. Upon which, with too much warmth and precipitancy, calling to the soldiers following, "They surrender, they surrender!" he advanced with near three hundred men, (who followed him without any orders from their General,) along the curtain which led to the ditch of the inward fort. The enemy suffered them to come into the ditch, and there surrounding them, took two hundred of them prisoners, at the same time making a discharge upon the rest, who were running back the way they came. This firing brought the Earl of Peterborow down from the upper part of the bastion, to see what was doing below. When he had just turned the point of the bastion, he saw the Prince of Hesse retiring, with the men that had so rashly advanced. The Earl had exchanged a very few words with him, when, from a second fire, that Prince received a shot in the great artery of the thigh, of which he died immediately, falling down at the General's feet, who instantly gave orders to carry off the body to the next convent.

'Almost the same moment, an officer came to acquaint the Earl of Peterborow, that a great body of horse and foot, at least three thousand, were on their march from Barcelona towards the fort. The distance is near a mile, all uneven ground; so that the enemy was either discoverable, or not to be seen, just as they were marching on the hills, or in the vallies. However, the General directly got on horseback, to take a view of those forces from the rising ground without the fort, having left all the posts, which were already taken, well secured with the allotted numbers of officers and soldiers.

'But the event will demonstrate of what consequence the absence or presence of one man may prove on great occasions. No sooner was the Earl out of the fort, the care of which he had left under the command of the Lord Charlemont, (a person of known merit and undoubted courage, but somewhat too flexible in his temper,) when a panic fear (though the Earl, as I have said, was only gone to take a view of the enemy) seized upon the soldiery, which was a little too easily complied with by the Lord Charlemont, then commanding officer. True it is; for I heard an officer, ready enough to take such advantages, urge to him, that none of all those posts we were become masters of, were tenable; that to offer at it would be no better than wilfully sacrificing human lives to caprice and humour; and just like a man's knocking his head against stone walls, to try which was hardest. Having overheard this piece of lip-oratory, and finding by the answer that it was too likely to prevail, and that all I was likely to say would avail nothing, I slipped away as fast as I could, to acquaint the General with the danger impending.

'As I passed along, I took notice, that the panic was upon the increase; the general rumour affirming, that we should be all cut

off

off by the troops that were come out of Barcelona, if we did not immediately gain the hills, or the houses possessed by the Miquelets. Officers and soldiers, under this prevailing terror, quitted their posts; and in one united body (the Lord Charlemont at the head of them) marched, or rather hurried out of the fort; and were come half-way down the hill before the Earl of Peterborow came up to them; though, on my acquainting him with the shameful and surprising accident, he made no stay; but answering, with a good deal of vehemence, "Good God, is it possible!" hastened back as fast he could.

'I never thought myself happier than in this piece of service to my country. I confess I could not but value it, as having been therein more than a little instrumental in the glorious successes which succeeded; since immediately upon this notice from me, the Earl galloped up the hill, and lighting when he came to Lord Charlemont, he took his half pike out of his hand; and turning to the officers and soldiers, told them, if they would not face about and follow him, they should have the scandal and eternal infamy upon them, of having deserted their posts, and abandoned their General.

'It was surprising to see with what alacrity and new courage they faced about, and followed the Earl of Peterborow. In a moment they had forgot their apprehensions; and, without doubt, had they met with any opposition, they would have behaved themselves with the greatest bravery. But as these motions were unperceived by the enemy, all the posts were regained, and anew possessed in less than half an hour, without any loss; though, had our forces marched half musket-shot further, their retreat would have been perceived, and all the success attendant on this glorious attempt must have been entirely blasted.

'Another incident which attended this happy enterprise was this: the two hundred men which fell into the hands of the enemy, by the unhappy mistake of the Prince of Hesse, were carried directly into the town. The Marquis of Risburg, a lieutenant-general, who commanded the three thousand men which were marching from the town to the relief of the fort, examined the prisoners as they passed by; and they all agreeing that the General and the Prince of Hesse were in person with the troops that made the attack on Monjouick, the Marquis gave immediate orders to retire to the town; taking it for granted, that the main body of the troops attended the Prince and General; and that some design therefore was on foot to intercept his return, in case he should venture too far. Thus, the unfortunate loss of our two hundred men turned to our advantage, in preventing the advance of the enemy, which must have put the Earl of Peterborow to inconceivable difficulties.

'The body of one thousand, under Brigadier Stanhope, being come up to Monjouick, and no interruption given us by the enemy, our affairs were put into very good order on this side; while the camp on the other side was so fortified, that the enemy, during the siege, never made one effort against it. In the mean time, the communication between the two camps was secure enough; although our troops were obliged to a tedious march along the foot of the hills,

whenever the General thought fit to relieve those on duty on the side of the attack, from those regiments encamped on the west side of Barcelona.

'The next day, after the Earl of Peterborow had taken care to secure the first camp to the eastward of the town, he gave orders to the officers of the fleet to land the artillery and ammunition behind the fortress to the westward. Immediately upon the landing whereof, two mortars were fixed; from both which we plied the fort of Monjouick furiously with our bombs. But the third or fourth day, one of our shells fortunately lighting on their magazine of powder, blew it up; and with it the governor, and many principal officers who were at dinner with him. The blast, at the same instant, threw down a face of one of the smaller bastions; which the vigilant Miquelets, ready enough to take all advantages, no sooner saw, (for they were under the hill, very near the place,) but they readily entered, while the enemy were under the utmost confusion. If the Earl, no less watchful than they, had not at the same moment thrown himself in with some regular troops, and appeased the general disorder, in all probability the garrison had been put to the sword. However, the General's presence not only allayed the fury of the Miquelets, but kept his own troops under strictest discipline: so that, in a happy hour for the frighted garrison, the General gave officers and soldiers quarter, making them prisoners of war.'

Our limits, which we have already exceeded, will not permit us to detail the other various exploits of Lord Peterborough in Spain; particularly his compelling King Philip to quit his dominions, by relieving Barcelona with a handful of men, comparatively speaking, when it was besieged by the King and Mareshal de Tess with an army of upwards of twenty-five thousand men; and after they had, with a loss of more than three thousand men, retaken Monjouick in twenty-three days, which Lord P. took (as we may say) in one hour.

Captain Carleton mentions an almost unparalleled instance of public spirit in the Earl of Peterborough, as well as of generosity towards the very man who, unfortunately for the cause in which they were embarked, had succeeded in undermining the Earl's authority and supplanting him in his command. The clergy and magistrates of Huette, hearing that Lord P. suspected the inhabitants of having given intelligence to the enemy respecting his baggage, which had been plundered within a league of that place, and taken from the small guard which General Windham had appointed to escort it to the camp at Guadalaxara,—and fearing that out of resentment he might lay their town in ashes,—offered his Lordship full satisfaction, and to pay in money or *decontado* the amount of what he had lost: but he told them that "he had just come from my Lord Galway's camp at Chincon, where he found that they

were in a likelihood of wanting bread; and as he imagined it might be easier to them to raise the value in corn than in ready money, if they would send to that value in corn to Lord Galway's camp, he would be satisfied."

The author's relation (p. 226.) of the cruel and barbarous treatment, which a captain of the English Guards and his party of convalescents, going to join their battalion, experienced from the Spaniards in a villa not far from Campilio, is sufficient to fill every one who reads it with horror.—In his account of the fatal battle of Almanza, he gives with much candour and simplicity a beautiful and interesting picture of the Duke of Berwick, both as a man and as a commander. By the representations of two Irish officers, who pretended to be deserters, and were properly instructed for the purpose, the Duke made the credulous Galway believe that the Duke of Orleans was in full march to join him (Berwick) with twelve thousand men: Galway therefore became eager to attack before the junction should take place; and the Duke of Berwick was overjoyed to see him appear, a little after noon, with forces fatigued by a hard march of three long Spanish leagues in the heat of the day. Finding Galway ready to run headlong into the snare prepared for him, the Duke drew up his army in the form of a half moon, with three regiments advanced to a convenient distance, in order to make up the centre, and conceal his disposition from the enemy; which regiments were expressly ordered to retreat at the very first charge. This stratagem had nearly the same effect on the English, who attacked them, which Annibal's contrivance produced on the Romans at the battle of Cannæ: for our troops, seeing the others retire suddenly before them, pursued them after their then customary manner with shouts and hallooings, till the Duke, observing that they had advanced far enough, ordered his right and left wings to close, and thus cut off from the rest of our army all those who had so eagerly followed the imaginary runaways. His native sympathy, however, and goodness of disposition, would not suffer him to allow his troops to attack those who had retreated to the top of the hills under Major-General Shrimpton, and whom it was in his power to have destroyed; and thus he exhibited, in his own person, a striking verification of the noble maxim, "that victory to generous minds is only an inducement to moderation."

The few very concise observations, which the author makes respecting the recall of the Earl of Peterborough, are calculated to create indignation in every honest and generous breast; and an universal sentiment of regret will also be ex-

cited, by the reflection that the zealous, faithful, and intelligent writer himself was so unworthily passed by without reward for all his services.

These Memoirs were first published in the year 1743, a few years before the commencement of our labours; and having become scarce and little known, they have been properly reprinted by an anonymous editor, who has duly executed his office by prefixing some introductory observations, and a few biographical particulars of the eminent hero who is the principal subject of them. Besides the useful military instruction which they afford, they contain much topographical and characteristic description; together with clear and distinct accounts of the manners, customs, and amusements of the Spaniards: for all which particulars we must refer to the volume, persuaded that a perusal of it will gratify the historian, the professional man, and the general reader.

Glen.

Art. X. *The Orders in Council, and the American Embargo, beneficial to the political and commercial Interests of Great Britain.* By Lord Sheffield. 8vo. pp 51. 2s. G. and W. Nicol. 1809.

POLITICAL economists have long complained of the inaptitude of merchants to form general views of trade, and of the ignorance evinced by public men in commercial regulations. We acknowlege the truth of these accusations: but, in scrutinizing the sources of these deficiencies, we shall find reason to qualify the severity of censure. In regard to merchants, it is important to observe, that the habits required for the practical detail of business are altogether different from those which are exercised in the analysis of general principles; and the consequence is, that this class of our countrymen fall perpetually into mistakes whenever they attempt to tread on speculative ground. Such errors, however, being committed out of their province, ought to form no deduction from their reputation in their proper sphere. A smaller measure of indulgence is perhaps due to those Statesmen who permit themselves to be governed by similar prejudices. The mistakes which they commit, in consequence of mercantile advice, arise chiefly from their own incapacity to distinguish the various qualifications which different pursuits have a tendency to form. It is the duty of the minister, when meditating commercial regulations, to apply to the practical man for information on local and particular questions connected with mere routine: but it is a gross misapprehension to resort to him for advice on measures of general policy. For these and

other false steps, which we see daily committed by our governors, we may account by adverting to the imperfect nature of their education, and the still more imperfect distribution of their official labours: but the apology is considerably weaker in their case than in that of the merchants, whose employment necessarily creates a train of ideas unfavorable to general reflection.

If censure, then, be due to the mistakes of men who are involved in a labyrinth of public business, how much more is it applicable to the ignorance of those whose duty it is to become masters of the science of political economy, and who cannot plead in extenuation the pressure of ministerial drudgery? In the members of our Board of Trade, we are intitled to expect an intimate acquaintance with the principles of commerce, and a promptitude in making them available on all occasions to the public interest. The noble author of the present pamphlet, we are concerned to say, is very far from possessing these requisites. Five-and-twenty years, he tells us, (p. 45.) have elapsed since he began to publish on matters of mercantile policy; and yet we discover no proof of his having even at present arrived at sound notions in regard to them. All his views are superficial; all his counsels are erroneous; and when we consider the respectability of his rank, and the slender knowlege of our ministers in regard to commercial questions, it becomes a public duty to expose the mistakes into which his Lordship has fallen, and to warn our rulers from being misled by them.

Lord Sheffield is no admirer of the present state of eloquence in our national councils. He complains (p. 2.) that

> 'The prevailing taste for diffusive declamation, which is now so frequently displayed in speeches of three hours and upwards, (the whole matter of which might be much better stated in half an hour,) renders attendance on parliament a most severe duty; and essentially interferes with the dispatch of public business.'

To the truth of this observation we cordially subscribe: but has his Lordship no sympathy with the unfortunate critic, who is forced to scrutinize the meaning of unconnected and indefinite phraseology, and to wade through pamphlets devoid of arrangement, and of the land-marks of general principles?

Lord S. admits (p. 10.) that our commerce has fallen off considerably in the year during which the Orders in Council have operated: but he ascribes that diminution not to these Orders, but to an unfortunate combination of political circumstances, which enabled Bonaparte to complete the exclusion

of our commerce from the Continent. In the same paragraph, however, he enlarges on the quantity of exports which unexpectedly took place to Spain, Portugal, Brazil, and Spanish America. The natural inference from these opposite statements would be, that the rapid political changes of the year in question had produced a mixed effect on our commerce, tending in several respects to diminish and in others to increase it:—but the reader, who looks to find this result distinctly presented to him by the noble author, will look in vain. The difference of effect is not pointed out; and the chain of reasoning is so aukwardly linked, that his Lordship appears to draw conclusions directly contrary to the nature of the facts.

The statement contained in the next page will be decisive of the measure of his Lordship's attainments in the opinion of all political economists. We find him adopting the exploded doctrines of the mercantile theory, in regard to the balance of trade, and pronouncing with all imaginable gravity that it is 'the difference between import and export which furnishes the only basis on which an estimate of the profit or loss to the country can be founded.' Is, then, the internal wealth, created by the operation of industry on the imported articles, no addition to the national profit? Or does the immense interchange by bills of exchange, which can never be noticed in the Custom-House reports, (and these reports form his Lordship's basis,) constitute no part of the balance of trade? Is it not apparent that both these considerations are of the first magnitude?—of such magnitude, indeed, as to overthrow all calculations of profit presented to us by the balance of our Custom-House transactions. Accordingly, for above thirty years, all intelligent reasoners have forborne to lay stress on this imaginary balance; and it was with no small surprize that we observed Lord Sheffield renew the delusion in an age in which better doctrines ought to be familiar to us. The Custom-House returns are useful in giving an idea (although by no means an exact one,) of the nature and value of our lawful exports and imports; since they thus afford a basis for calculating the extent of capital employed in foreign trade; and, by taking on that capital the ordinary rate of profit, we may compute (or rather guess) the amount of probable gain on our foreign commerce, in the same way as we would compute it on any branch of internal traffic. Such are the conclusions to which we may arrive by a consideration, not of the difference between our exports and imports, but of the amounts on both sides. This difference, on which Lord S. so much relies, is no clue whatever to the computation of our annual profits,

because

because it will be greater or less according to the extent of our transactions with foreign countries through the invisible medium of bills of exchange;—and it will be greater or less also according to our revenue laws, it being the custom of merchants to declare at the lowest the value of goods which pay *ad valorem* duty, and to magnify the worth of those which pay no duty.

It is a rule with us to endeavour to avoid, as much as may be possible, severity of animadversion towards a well-meaning writer, however injudicious. Most willingly would we observe this maxim in the case of Lord Sheffield, to whom we give credit for the best intentions; but, as we advance in the perusal of his tract, we find the tendency of his doctrines so prejudicial to the fundamental interests of his country, and his statements of facts so extremely erroneous, that we feel ourselves required to enter our protest against them in the most decisive tone. Let those who deem our censure too severe compare the following reference to authorities, and say what judgment they would themselves award.

In treating of our colonial interests, his Lordship says (p. 32.): 'In fact the West India Islands have never been better supplied than they were during the last year, under the operation of the American Embargo. The prices current evince that little or no inconvenience was experienced by them in consequence of that measure.' Here are two positive assertions; the one regarding quantity,—the other, price. First as to quantity:—had Lord Sheffield looked into the official returns, he would have seen cause for a very different declaration. These returns enable us to make a comparison of actual quantities between the last and preceding years. If we take for example the article of flour, we find imported into Jamaica in the year before the Embargo, (namely, from 30th September 1806, to 30th September 1807,) not fewer than 106,000 barrels; and in the succeeding year, under the operation of the Embargo, only 49,000. Again, if we take the important article of staves, we find that in the year before the Embargo, Jamaica received nine millions of staves, and in the year during which it operated, little more than three millions. A similar disproportion has taken place in regard to other articles, with the exception of fish, the quantity of which is kept up by a bounty.—So much for his Lordship's accuracy in the statement of quantities. Next, as to prices. The Jamaica lists for January last shew that red oak staves had been raised from 30l. currency, per thousand, (the ordinary rate before the Embargo,) to 45 and 50l.; flour from 4 or 5l. per barrel, to 9l.; and white oak staves from 35 to 80l. Such

is

is the condition of a market, in which the author states with perfect confidence that little or no inconvenience was experienced; and such are the losses to which the sugar planters will be exposed, if government adopt the narrow policy of discouraging the admission of staves from the United States!

Lord Sheffield seems to have been as imperfectly informed in regard to the views of his ministerial friends as in other respects. His pamphlet had scarcely issued from the press when the Orders in Council were rescinded; yet an evident conviction prevailed in his Lordship's mind at the time of writing it, that these orders were intended as a permanent measure during the war. Observe from the following sentence (p. 2.) the self-complacency with which he views the opinion of himself and his friends, and the mixture of pity and surprize which he feels towards those who still called in question the wisdom of these Orders:

'That men should differ in probable results is not extraordinary; but that they should persist in endeavours to uphold doctrines, with whatever views they were first embraced—that they should continue to hazard their credit as statesmen and politicians, after it has been *ascertained by experience and incontestible proof, that those doctrines are erroneous,* appears utterly incomprehensible.'

The noble author exerts himself strenuously to depreciate our commerce with the United States. He says, (p. 13.)

'The apparent balance in our favour becomes nearly a non-entity. A trade with every country is certainly desirable; inasmuch as an extensively general commerce with the world secures us from a state of dependance on any one individual nation. But what advantages do we derive from an exportation, if we are not paid for it? Which, most assuredly, is much more frequently the case, in the course of our trade with the citizens of the American States, than with any other country.'

We agree that much greater uncertainty prevails in regard to payments from America, or from any under-stocked country, than from a country like Holland, in which the interest of money is low, and the debtor has no temptation to retain the funds of his creditor:—but the consequence is that, to cover this risk, the profits both of our manufacturers and our exporters are much larger. The London merchant, who will execute an order for the continent of Europe at a commission of two per cent. will not ship to America for less than five. His Lordship may be perfectly satisfied that, were the American business so losing a concern as he describes it, our exporters, for their own sake, would speedily discontinue it. No doubt,

doubt, indeed, more money is made by small profits and prompt payments, than by large profits with long credits; and, had his Lordship confined himself to this comparative estimate, he should have been welcome to our assent:—but he is not in the habit of qualifying his censures; and he despises the modifications by which a more cautious reasoner would temper his conclusions.

One of the principal objects of this pamphlet, as our readers may have already observed, is to recommend that our West India Colonies should be forced to take all their supplies of stores from this country, or British North America, to the exclusion of the United States. Accordingly, the author descants largely (p. 36.) on the resources and capabilities of our North American provinces; and, like other politicians of similar proficiency, he thinks that to confine our purchases within ourselves is the quickest way of amassing riches. Were they, however, to study the operation of capital, and the genuine sources of the increase of wealth, they would discover that it is injurious to ourselves to give a forced acceleration to the progress of any particular branch of trade; that the only sound policy for a country, which desires to trade with the rest of the world, is to buy wherever she can buy cheapest; and that this unrestrained freedom will be found the most powerful of agents in promoting the rapid increase of her wealth. It is evidently detrimental to our sugar-colonies to be compelled to buy those stores from Canada, which they can obtain cheaper from the United States. It is detrimental also to ourselves; because, by retarding the augmentation of West India capital, it lessens their capacity of adding to the general wealth of the empire, and of bearing a part of our common burdens. In the long run, also, it would be detrimental to our North American colonies themselves, because it would give them a false and premature growth; which, however flattering in appearance, will infallibly make the ultimate power and riches of a country less than they would have been if things were left to their natural course. A gradual and steady progress is to individuals the surest source of comfort and fortune, and to nations the broadest foundation of political strength.

Lord S. concludes (p. 45.) by saying that, in regard to Great Britain and the United States, a treaty of commerce is mutually unnecessary. In the particular application which he wishes to make of the want of a treaty, namely the prevention of intercourse between our West India colonies and the United States, we have already said that we can by no means concur: but to the expression, in a general sense, we have no objection.

tion. By a general sense, we mean that either Britain and America, or any other countries, may trade perfectly well together without any treaty of commerce. These treaties are often framed for the purpose of giving effect to speculative notions of benefit arising from the encouragement of one branch of trade in preference to another; and taxes have been often imposed more with a view to such regulations, than to their productive power in the way of revenue. The effect of such interferences is to give an involuntary direction to individual industry, or, in other words, to controul and thwart it; as well as to lessen the progressive accumulation of capital, by with-holding it from several of the channels in which private ingenuity and enterprize would have embarked it. It follows, therefore, that the exchange of commodities, as well as the whole course of traffic, should be left to the choice of individuals, and that government-regulations should be imposed only with a view to revenue.

In taking leave of Lord Sheffield, we repeat with pleasure our conviction that his motives are not only pure but patriotic; his style also is good; and his acquaintance with local and particular circumstances is very considerable: but he is extremely deficient in accuracy of statement, and in knowlege of general principles.

With respect to the Orders in Council, we regard it as unnecessary now to enter into any discussion of their expediency as a measure of policy. We early expressed our regret at their enactment, and their abrogation is the best proof that our dissent was not unfounded: but we have no desire to take credit for foresight on our own part, or to tax those who differed from us with inconsistency. Ministers have done right at last in rescinding them; and those, whose principal object is the public good, will rejoice at the benefit likely to result from cancelling these extraordinary decrees, without expatiating on the bad judgment which suggested them. Endeavouring therefore to forget the past, let us be contented with deprecating any recurrence to similar measures; and with explaining the hazard of placing any dependence, in questions of commerce, on the advice of such erring counsellors as the noble author of the present tract.

Lowe.

ART.

ART. XI. *An Attempt to elucidate the pernicious Consequences of a Deviation from the Principles of the Orders in Council.* 8vo. pp. 76. 2s. 6d. Tipper. 1809.

THE revocation of the Orders in Council renders it unnecessary now to enter into any inquiry in regard to their political operation, and we find nothing in this pamphlet that merits notice at length. Indeed, the only striking circumstance suggested to us by a perusal of it is the contradiction in the views of the advocates of these Orders. The United States are the great object of Lord Sheffield's dislike, while the present author argues for giving free scope to American traffic, but maintains vehemently the impolicy of continuing to import the commodities of our continental opponents.

Were this writer to publish a tract on any mercantile subject with which he is conversant, and to confine himself to a plain statement of circumstances within his knowlege, his production might be serviceable, since he is by no means deficient in an acquaintance with facts: but his mind is in a most unfit state for a train of reasoning. It is a mere *tabula rasa* in regard to political economy; and in respect to taxation, he falls (page 34.) into the common error of supposing that the duty, paid on any particular commodity, is yielded by that commodity, and dependent for its duration on the continued use of the article in question: without perceiving that it is taken out of the pocket of the consumer, and that, were the article disused, it would be no difficult matter to levy a correspondent duty from the same persons in a different shape. In regard to politics, we can scarcely judge more favourably of the author's penetration, when he tells us (page 51.) that to prevent the Dutch from shipping goods to this country would be an effectual way to stimulate them to resist the French. Bonaparte does not hold his dependent states by such silken cords.

We present our readers with two extracts, both of which are calculated to shew the unfavourable admissions which the advocates of these orders are compelled to make. Much has been said of the amount of our goods which continue to find their way to the Continent, notwithstanding Bonaparte's regulations: but the present writer acknowleges (page 9.) that

'From the total amount of these exports must be deducted the freights out, which go into the pockets of the continental shipowners, a share for captures at sea, seizures in port, confiscation at landing, and all the risks attending the goods every mile they proceed into the interior; what remains is barely sufficient to cover the first cost in the British market. Some persons are misled by the high prices of British goods on the Continent: they do not reflect that those

those prices do not come into our pockets, that the goods must be smuggled in, that all the items stated are so many deductions from the said high prices, and that the residue is totally inadequate to the payment of the many demands upon us from the Continent.

'Besides, the exportations from hence must be expected to diminish every year as long as affairs continue in their present state; and at present we have no reason to hope for any relaxation in the measures of our foe. The consumption of every British article diminishes perceptibly, and their high prices put them beyond the reach of the middling and lower classes, who substitute other things; but where that is impossible, do without them altogether. In Holland, for instance, native tobacco, which two years ago was detested even by the lowest rabble, is now generally used. For coffee, necessity has substituted roasted rye, horse-beans, and several sorts of dried and prepared roots. Indigo is almost entirely in disuse; in Saxony and other parts of Germany, where blue cloth was formerly much worn, they have laid the practice of dying this colour totally aside.'

In the next passage, (page 70.) the author, treating of the American trade with the continent, expresses an opinion very different from those of other apologists for the Orders in Council:

'A somewhat intimate acquaintance with several foreign nations and their habits emboldens me to hazard an opinion that to force the Continent by preventing imports, is as *chimerical* as for Bonaparte to attempt to overcome us by preventing exports. The distresses occasioned by the deprivation of so many articles of luxury and necessity, are undoubtedly great; but then the continental nations also keep their money in their pockets, which they otherwise would have had to pay for them, and this considerably softens the evil. We do not perceive that any good can result from preventing the introduction of tobacco, rice, staves, wheat, flour, &c. into continental Europe; on the contrary, the remittances for these articles would be essentially beneficial to the exchange, and would reduce the prices of the raw materials which we procure from the Continent. This is so interesting a consideration, that we anxiously hope to see another essay from the able pen of Mr. A. Baring or of some other writer, master of the subject, elucidating minutely the effects of the measures of 11th November. We cannot help thinking that a truly conciliating tone would be met by America with gratitude, and would not lessen our dignity and consequence, either with them or with the world: the Americans have doubtless been much misrepresented in this country.'

In any future publications, this author will do well to avoid such vulgar illustrations as occur in page 69.; and to superintend the printing, which in the present case is the most inaccurate that we have seen for a considerable time.

Lowe.

ART.

ART. XII. *A Treatise on Telegraphic Communication by Day and Night*, for naval, military, and commercial Purposes. (On new Principles.) Illustrated with Engravings and coloured Flags; by which are exemplified the different Methods of working by regular and compound Numbers. Also is added a numerical inflected Dictionary of the English Language, calculated for Communication on any Subject, and adapted to any numerical Code. By Joseph Conolly. Crown 8vo. 15 s. Boards. Winchester and Son. 1808.

MR. Conolly informs us that his principal object, in offering this treatise to the public, is to comprise in one the different naval codes of signals that are now in use; to disencumber the quarter-deck or poop of colour-chests; and to introduce into telegraphing and signalling more economy, simplicity, scope, and certainty than are to be found in the plans hitherto proposed. He allows that his language has less erudition than that of others, but asserts that it is better calculated for conveying instruction to the generality of such men as have chosen the honourable profession of a soldier or a sailor, and are desirous of qualifying themselves in every requisite for serving their country either at home or abroad. He then proceeds directly to his subject, without attempting to describe the different degrees of improvement in which the art of making communications by means of signals existed at different times, to ascertain their origin, or to trace the use of them, as some writers have endeavoured to do, even back to Noah's dove.

We cannot, however, help observing that neither the methods proposed by him and by other writers of the present day, nor that which is practised by the Admiralty, are nearly so simple and so little liable to error as that which Polybius describes as existing among the antients. That system attempted no union or combination of the numerical with the alphabetical method; whereas in that which is used by the Admiralty, these two methods are blended together: a circumstance that destroys the simplicity of telegraphing, and must infallibly on some occasions give rise to confusion and mistakes. At the same time, we must, in justice to Mr. Conolly, allow that his plans appear to us to be more simple, and more distinct, than those which we have seen proposed by modern writers.

Mr. C. first gives what he calls a *Naval Code* with a numerical flag-table, consisting of six flags and two pendants; then a portable military and commercial telegraph, with a description of it and of the mode of placing it, together with an alphabetical table, and a table for numerical signals; next a triangular

telegraph-

telegraph-house for night and day, with a description; then numerical and alphabetical house-signals; then telegraph house-pendants; next a night telegraph with a night telegraph-table; then a numerical and alphabetical fixed telegraph, with an alphabetical table; then a portable night-telegraph with a portable night-alphabet; next a few observations on ships' night-signals; and lastly a numerical inflected dictionary.

For his naval code, the author makes use of six flags, and two pendants, one red and the other white. The two sides of the first flag represent 1 and 2; those of the second, 3 and 4; those of the third, 5 and 6; those of the fourth, 7 and 8; those of the fifth, 9 and 0; and those of the sixth, when combined with others, the substitute and extra-substitute. When the sides of this last flag are used by themselves, without any other flag or flags, they denote *Interrogative* and *Affirmative*; and the side of the fifth flag, which represents 0, or the cypher, when used by itself denotes *Negative*. This, with the substitute and extra-substitute, he calls the three auxiliary flags in their combinations with others.

The following are his directions relative to the flags and pendants:

'Contrast six flags and two pendants according to fancy, in such manner, that one flag or pendant cannot be mistaken for another, and be careful that such flags are so contrasted that they may be as readily distinguished in black and white, as if they were contrasted for near inspection, by red, blue, green, or yellow.

'The above recommendation is given from experimental proof, that colour cannot be distinguished at a distance of four leagues.

'The flags should be six feet by nine, and the pendants three feet by eighteen, verging from the base of three feet to a point.

'It will be necessary to place eight sheaves in each top-gallant or flagstaff truck, that the halyard of each flag and pendant may be separately rove and bent to the toggles of each flag and pendant.

'The halyards will not reach below the Tops, where the signals may be at all times ready bent, for hoisting to that mast head, which can be best seen.

'The signals are contained in a painted canvas bag, which may be readily closed or opened, to hoist out a signal from the other flags.

'The topmen will take care to hoist the flags at proper distances from each other, which may be averaged at half a fathom.

'In blowing weather, when the voice cannot be heard from deck in the top, the signal officer will be furnished with seven square boards or pieces of canvas, with the numbers from 1 to 9 painted white on a black ground: if No. 1, its opposite side will exhibit No. 2, and so on to S, or substitute; Ex, or extra substitute; R, or red pendant; W, or white pendant.'

For

For this code, Mr. C. makes a division of numbers which we cannot but totally disapprove; since he divides them into regular and compound numbers, departing entirely from the just, correct, and generally received notion of compound or composite number. A deviation from approved and legitimate definitions ought never to be lightly attempted, since it must always tend to create confusion and error; and the present case offers no necessity for it. He calls those *regular numbers*, that 'require no assistance in their composition from the auxiliary flags;' and those *compound numbers*, 'which are formed by the three auxiliary flags, viz. the cipher, substitute, and extra-substitute.' He had much better have made his division in numbers that can be expressed according to this code without the auxiliary flags, and into those which cannot, than have endeavoured to give a notion of compound numbers totally different from the true and universally received idea.

A number consisting of two or three digits, or of two digits and the cipher, is expressed by placing the flags denoting those digits, or those digits and the cipher, in order under one another.

The substitute flag, placed under that which represents any one of the nine digits, repeats that digit, or gives it in the place of tens as well as units. Thus the substitute flag placed under those representing 1, 2, 3, 4, &c. denotes 11, 22, 33, 44, &c. respectively.

As Mr. C. supposes each numeral flag to express by means of its two sides two digits or numbers, he makes the substitute flag, placed over the side representing the first of these, repeat it with one added in the place of units; and, over the side representing the second of these numbers, repeat it with one less in the place of units. Thus the substitute placed over the flag No. 1. with its side presented which means 1, denotes 12, or $11 + 1$; and, over it with the side presented which expresses 2, it denotes 21, or $22 - 1$; and so on.

The flag representing the cipher, or 0, placed over or above that which represents any digit, denotes a number composed of that digit both in the place of units and in that of hundreds, with 0 in the place of tens; as for instance 101, 202, 303, &c. respectively, if the cipher-flag be placed over the numeral flags representing 1, 2, 3, &c.

The extra-substitute flag placed above the cipher, and both above a numeral flag, denote a number with 0 in the place of tens; the digit represented by the side of the numeral flag which is exhibited, in the place of hundreds, and the digit represented by its other side in the place of units. Thus if

they be placed over flag No. 2. with the side presented that means 3, (and the other side denoting 4 of course out of view,) they denote 304 : but if over that flag with the side exhibited that represents 4, they denote 403.

The extra-substitute placed under any numeral flag repeats the digit represented by that flag twice, or gives a number consisting of that digit in the three places of units, tens, and hundreds.

The extra-substitute placed over a numeral flag denotes a number which has the digit represented by the side of that flag which is exhibited to view, in the places of tens and hundreds ; with the digit represented by its other side, that is out of view, in the place of units. Thus, placed over flag No. 2. with the side exhibited that represents 3, it denotes 334 : but, placed over it with the side exhibited which represents 4, it denotes 443.

Any number consisting of three figures, with the digit represented by one side of a numeral flag in the place both of units and hundreds, and the digit represented by its other side in the place of tens, is denoted by placing the substitute over the cipher, and both over the numeral flag.

The cipher placed above the substitute, and both over a numeral flag, denote a number consisting of three figures, that has the digit represented by the side exhibited in the place of hundreds, and the digit represented by its other side in the place both of tens and units.

The cipher placed over two numeral flags indicates that the digit, represented by the uppermost of these flags, is to be both in the place of hundreds and in that of units, with the digit represented by the lowermost, in the place of tens.

The extra-substitute placed *over* two numeral flags denotes a number, which has the digit represented by the side of the uppermost flag that is exhibited, in the place of hundreds ; and the digit represented by its other side in the place of units, with that which is expressed by the lowermost flag in the place of tens.

The extra-substitute placed *under* two numeral flags denotes a number, which has the digit represented by the uppermost of these flags in the place of hundreds ; that which is expressed by the exhibited side of the lowermost of these two numeral flags, in the place of tens ; and that which is represented by its other side, in the place of units.

We have been the more particular in our elucidation of these combinations, because much obscurity and an inaccuracy of diction prevail in Mr. Conolly's exemplifications and illustrations

lustrations of them. We observe also some mistakes in what he calls his table of compound numbers; and he improperly gives to o the appellation of *the tenth cipher.*—We shall quote his own description of the use of pendants, of alphabetical signals, of the manner of hoisting and lowering signals, and of auxiliary signals:

'OF THE USE OF PENDANTS.

'On the Six flag principle two pendants are sufficient to add 10,000 to the flag numbers, which reach numerically to 999: it is the highest number that can be exhibited by three flags: and for this plain reason, we know no figure of more numerical value than the cipher 9.

'The first pendant is Red.

'The second pendant is White.

'The Red pendant placed above any number, or numbers, adds 1000 to such number or numbers; as, over No. 1, 1001;—9, 1009;—33, 1033.

'The Red pendant placed below any number or numbers adds 2000 to such number or numbers.

'The White pendant placed above any number or numbers, adds 3000 to such number or numbers.

'The White pendant placed below any number or numbers, adds 4000 to such number or numbers.

'The Red pendant placed immediately above the White pendant, and both above any number or numbers, adds 5000 to such number or numbers.

'The Red pendant placed below any number or numbers, the White pendant being under the Red, adds 6000 to such number or numbers.

'The White pendant placed above the Red pendant, and both over any number or numbers, adds 7000 to such number or numbers.

'The White pendant next to, and below any number or numbers, the Red pendant being under, adds 8000 to such number or numbers.

'The Red pendant placed above any number or numbers, and the White pendant below the same number or numbers, at the same time, adds 9000 to such number or numbers.

'The White pendant above any number or numbers, and the Red below the same number or numbers, adds 10,000 to such number or numbers; consequently the flag number 999 added to 10,000, amount to 10,999.

'ON ALPHABETICAL SIGNALS.

'Take the numbers from 10 to 34, and place the Red pendant, between the two flags, which denote any of those numbers. The numbers will then signify in rotation the letters of the Alphabet, as follows:

	10	A	23	O	
	11	B	24	P	
	12	C	25	Q	
	13	D	26	R	
	14	E	27	S	
	15	F	28	T	
	16	G	29	U	
	17	H	30	V	
	18	I	31	W	
	19	K	32	X	
	20	L	33	Y	
	21	M	34	Z	
	22	N			

'ON HOISTING AND LOWERING SIGNALS.

'When both ends of the halyard are bent to the toggles of a flag, it furnishes in itself, both halyard and downhaul to the flag. If you hoist on one part of the halyard, and exhibit No 1, by hauling down, and hoisting on the opposite part, you will exhibit No. 2; in like manner the other flags are reversed or capsised.

'If any one flag is to be capsised for a following number, haul down of all, and hoist it, in the proper position with the other flags.

'If the flags which are up, will answer for the following signal, without any flag being capsised, the transposition is performed according to the second rule of regular numbers.

'The signals are hoisted by one or five halyards in the hand at one time, which require less force than three flags on one halyard.

'When your signal is answered, haul down the signal to acknowledge the same, or dip the signals in the act of transposition, which will answer the same purpose.

'ON AUXILIARY SIGNALS.

'The indefinite article A, is signified by the Red pendant singly.

'The definite article THE, is signified by the White pendant singly.

'The pronoun I, is signified by the Red pendant over the White.

'The first person plural, or WE, is denoted by the White pendant over the Red.

'The singular pronouns of the third person are denoted as follows:

'HE—The Red pendant over the cipher.

'SHE—The Red pendant under the cipher.

'IT—The White pendant over the cipher.

'The conjunction AND is signified by placing the White pendant under the cipher,

'YOUR—The Red pendant over the substitute.

'HIS—The Red pendant below the substitute.

'HIM—The White pendant above the substitute.

'HER—The White pendant below the substitute.

'THAT—The Red pendant over the ex-substitute.

'MY—The Red pendant under the ex-substitute.

'THEIR

'THEIR—The White pendant over the ex-substitute.

'OUR—The White pendant under the ex-substitute.

'The pronominal adjectives, One, None, Some, This, That, Any, Other, may be denoted by the remaining changes of the auxiliaries, viz.

'1st. The Red pendant over the White pendant, and both over the cipher, is an additional change or signal.

'2d. When placed under the cipher.

'3d. When the White pendant is over the Red pendant, and both over the cipher.

'4th. The White pendant over the Red, and both below the cipher.

'5th. The Red pendant above, and the White pendant below the cipher.

'6th. The White pendant above, and the Red pendant below the cipher.

'The same addition can be made, with the substitute 6, and with the ex-substitute 6. Total, 34 changes.

'The two flags, cipher and substitute together, with the pendants, add 40 changes on the same principle.

'The auxiliary numbers are left open for concerted words, which will be arranged according to circumstances.

'The Dictionary will furnish any current word; therefore the examples of matter may be expunged, and the numbers applied in a different manner, by taking the first ten changes for a Numerical table, to denote the ship numbers, and the remaining twenty-four numbers, for alphabetical signals. This plan, in my opinion, is preferable to the former; but choice is left open.'

We are sorry to be under the necessity of remarking that this code, though ingenious, appears to us to want simplicity; and that therefore those who use it may not always steer clear of error and confusion. Mr. C.'s portable military and commercial telegraph is the part of his performance which we prefer. It appears to have been tried from Shooter's hill to New Cross telegraph, before a committee of General and Field Officers, who allowed that it possessed the great advantages of portability and simplicity in its operations. For a description of it, of the portable signals employed in working it, and the placing of it, &c. we must refer to the volume, and content ourselves with inserting a few general remarks of the author respecting it;

'The signals may be worked without being perceived by an enemy, as they are equally distinguished against a hill; the officer may look out above, and give directions to the telegraphic party below him on the hither side of the hill.

'In case of invasion, the volunteer associations may communicate in any direction through the United Kingdom, where the present fixed telegraph cannot operate.

'A single telegraph is sufficient, but it is recommended, that three are placed in line; the syllable will then be given at once.

'At fixed stations a sufficient number of these telegraphs may be placed that the word may be given at once, which no other telegraphs will admit of.

'Through single intervals, one telegraph can communicate with great celerity, by hooking on the three flags, or a syllable at a time.

'Suppose the word ARM:—M is placed under R, and A over R. When hoisted together, the letter A will be acknowledged first. When answered, dip the signals, to acknowledge the same, and unhook the two upper rings of A; then hoist the other flags which remain in the hooks, and follow the same rule, hoisting the pendant with the last letter of the word.

'The flags are taken off as they are answered, and arranged for the next syllable of the word, or following word.

'As an alphabetical flag differs on its sides, the opposite of the symbol A, being in the same position, black on a white ground, denoting E, it will be a satisfactory answer, when you desire the letter A to be passed along the line, to see the letter E exhibited to you: the back of your signal will convince you in an instant, that it is the same figure before and behind with the opposite signal.

'At single intervals, such as across lakes and rivers, from house to house: or from the Platform at Portsmouth to the Depôt in the Isle of Wight, direct, without an intervening ship to repeat the signals, this telegraph may be used to great civil and military advantage.

'In an enemy's country, the signals can be made from military cloathing, and the machine furnished by serjeant's pikes, or poles, with two small blocks seized on the arms.

'When the complete apparatus is made by military artificers, it will cost the public about two pounds. If made in India, five shillings.

'In a commercial point of view, this telegraph can be used to immediate advantage over the river Mersey, and at particular points, from the mouth of the Thames to London (or by permission) from London to Birmingham.

'When a number is exhibited by any telegraph herein described, it will signify a reference to the word, exactly opposite the same number, in the inflected dictionary.

'Should the word be a verb, that inflexion will be selected from the line, to agree in number, person, tense, and mood, with the former part of the sentence.

'Any other flexible part of speech, the inflection will be selected to accord grammatically with the sentence.

'It is believed that the following dictionary will furnish a pleasing and profitable amusement to the young officer, when at anchor, or in taking surveys of the coast; while he is exercising himself in making and answering signals, he will be acquiring a grammatical knowledge of his own language.

'Generals or Admirals who command expeditions, can use the portable telegraph to great advantage by communicating in the most comprehensive

comprehensive manner, direct to the shore, or from the shore to the shipping, without the assistance of boats.

'The apparatus can be erected in two minutes, and struck in half a minute.

'In an engagement on shore, orders can be issued to any extent of the line, without delay, or fatigue of horses.

'A flag seven feet square, is sufficient to communicate through an interval of twelve miles.

'The stated distance, and size of the flag, have been determined through the six guinea contract telescopes.

'When the interval is greater, the flag can be enlarged to answer the distance. It is now proving from Guernsey to Jersey, by the officer who wrote the official report to his His Royal Highness the Commander in Chief, on the proof given at Plymouth before the Admirals and Committee.

'The signals will not clash with any other established signals.

'They are equally distinguished on the level; on the side of a hill; or on its summit; and more discernable in any situation than flying signals, as they are fully displayed in any wind to the intended point, and parallel to the opposite station.

'When flying signals are blown in the line of communication (or edge on) the flags are nearly invisible, and verge to proportionate obscurity, as they are blown from a parallel direction.

'The principle has been repeatedly proved at home, and has answered every statement in this treatise; nothing but its great simplicity, and economy, can consign it over to contempt and oblivion.'

Mr. Conolly's inflected dictionary is tolerably copious, containing words expressed numerically as far as the number 10935, and one number frequently expresses not only the inflections of a verb, but also other words connected with it. For instance, opposite to the number 1273 stands '*Charm-s-ed-ing-er-ingly*,' to shew that *charm*, *charms*, *charmed*, *charming*, *charmer*, *charmingly*, are all denoted by the same letter; and scarcely any confusion or ambiguity can be thus occasioned, because the context readily proves what inflection or word is intended. We cannot but think, however, that a numerical dictionary composed of entire sentences would be greatly preferable, and would render telegraphing much more expeditious than it is at present.

Glen.

ART. XIII. *An Inquiry into certain vulgar Opinions concerning the Catholic Inhabitants and the Antiquities of Ireland.* In a Series of Letters from thence addressed to a Protestant Gentleman in England. By the Reverend J. Milner, D. D. F.S.A. &c. 8vo. pp. 277. 5s. Boards. Booker. 1808.

THE respectable size of this volume, the variety of its contents, and its confident tone, would have induced us to

regard it as the result of at least six months' peregrination, had not the author chronologically marked the steps of his flying visit. This ill judged ingenuousness, however, (perhaps the only instance of it with which the work is chargeable,) prevented that illusion without which no reflecting person would place any reliance on these lucubrations. The writer's letter, on his landing in Ireland, bears date the twenty-seventh of June 1807; and his farewell epistle, which he dispatches at the moment of his embarkation for England, is dated on the twelfth of August of the same year: so that the volume is an account of a six *weeks'* tour, while it affects to impart a mass of information which a person who was jealous of his credit and fame would scarcely undertake to accumulate in as many months. A reader can hardly refrain from suspecting that the materials of these letters had been determined, and, in a degree, digested before the Vicar Apostolic's departure; and that the visit to Ireland was only made in order to warrant an imposing title page. The order to which, we have been informed, the right reverend Letter-writer belongs, has allowed of freedoms being taken with facts; and that the author does not regard this indulgence of his order as useless, the letters before us, as well as his conduct to some of our eminent statesmen, and his subsequent explanation of that conduct, leave us not much room to entertain a doubt.—We hope that the *Protestant Gentleman*, to whom these epistles are addressed, is abundantly distinguished by liberality and forbearance; since the catholic prelate has put these qualities fully to the trial, by unsparingly dealing out reflections which must offend and disgust the most candid persons who value protestantism.

If perfect confidence can be placed in the right reverend tourist, the Irish poor are more moral and religious than our own; the catholic priests have the advantage in professional qualifications over our parochial clergy; and the prelates of the same communion shame the protestant bishops, and emulate the antient fathers of the church. We should feel truly happy if the dignified author had better vouchers for these bold assertions, than he was able to furnish, and could prove the readiness of the Irish catholic prelates to submit the appointment of their successors to a royal veto. As to his intercourse with the peasants, it appears to have been limited to casual conversations which he held with them, while humanely walking up the hills which intervened in the course of his tour, in order to ease the horses by which his chaise was drawn. We also fear that the attention which he paid to the dignities of his communion allowed him little time for appreciating the merits

of

of the parish priests. In the midst of this account of living manners, he plunges all at once into the darkness of remote antiquity, carrying us back to the days of good old St. Patrick; and we are required to believe in his mission, and to admit that he taught the tenets and usages of the present Roman church, on pain of being declared to be incorrigible blockheads and heretics. In the observations which the tourist is pleased to make on the lights and ornaments of the Reformation, he always speaks as if *ex cathedra*, and shews as little regard to accuracy as deference to public opinion. In the same style he vindicates all the tenets and usages of his church; and an Italian ecclesiastic, subject to the tribunal of the Inquisition, or under the immediate eye of the Pope, could not write with more dictatorial and arrogant bigotry. His volume may gratify the Romish zealot, but it will disgust men of enlarged views and liberal notions, whatever may be their religious persuasions; and it will not advance that harmony and good-will among christians of all denominations, to which the catholics must stand indebted for their restoration to civil rights;—a restoration for which, we scarcely need declare, while animadverting on a publication which has a strong tendency to retard that paramount object, we have long been zealous and steady advocates.

The following passage, however, deserves public attention, and does not fall within the description of those of which we complain;

'The Irish Catholics are, and always have been, remarkable for love and respect towards their clergy. I have observed it, with pleasure, in the opulent and noble as well as in the lowly and the indigent. But then, to speak the truth, the clergy, in general, support the credit of their station, and perform their duty, which, in fact, is to render themselves worthy of such treatment. It is impossible, Sir, for you to form a judgment of the labours of a vigilant priest in Ireland, who has to attend, perhaps, five thousand parishioners, spread over a district of probably nine or ten miles in circumference, unless you were acquainted with all the several duties of our ministry: still you may easily conceive that the whole life of such a pastor must be devoted to them. The first of these is to wait on the sick. Every priest then must be at all times ready to attend to each sick person in his parish, however poor and abject, and however loathsome and infectious the disorder may be under which the patient labours. He must be ready to set off in all weathers, and at all hours of the night as well as of the day, to administer the comforts and benefits of our religion in question: and it is a fact that very few Catholics die without such consolation and assistance. In a word, the people who are accustomed to call their priest by the endearing name of *father*, know and feel that they have a true father in him, one who is ready to render them every service

in his power, temporal as well as eternal, and to face death itself in the discharge of his spiritual duties towards them. No wonder then they should experience the reverence and affection of children towards him.—It appears that certain members of the legislature are determined upon obliging the established clergy of Ireland to reside on their benefices, and to read prayers in their empty churches, with the view of bringing over the people to their religion. Depend upon it, Sir, the *catholic clergy laugh at this proposal.* They say: "We shall be glad if the dignitaries were to come amongst us, because then our poor people would get rid of the tithe-proctors. On the other hand, unless these gentlemen should take more pains and shew more disinterestedness than we do; unless they should be willing to meet us in the smoaky and poisonous cabin, no less than in controversial debate, our congregations will never be the thinner for their presence."

Surely an expression might have been found more becoming the subject, than the one which we have put in italics. It would have better suited a Voltaire or a Gibbon than a catholic prelate.

We are enemies to the bigotry of both parties, and consequently do not very seriously resent this author's treatment of a virulent adversary of his cause, who lately filled a high station in the sister-island:

'The good understanding and natural union between the catholic clergy and laity of Ireland, has happily been such as to baffle those attempts of a learned Lord, the old and unrelenting enemy of the catholic name, which heretofore had too much success amongst us Catholics of England. Accordingly he reproaches, in severe terms, the catholic nobility and gentry of Ireland with being less enlightened, less liberal, and less I know not what, than Catholics of the same rank in England*. Happily the Irish are not disposed to be guided by this nobleman in any matter whatever regarding their religion. And, thank God! the English likewise have lately so behaved themselves, as to merit his equal censure, if, what we are told is true, that he has pronounced "the English Catholics (all, except a few) to be as bad as the Irish†." You will be surprised, Sir, that I should describe a personage who is supposed to have procured for us the important advantages of the law of 1791, as "the old and unrelenting enemy of the catholic name." To this I answer, first, that the *Act of Parliament made Mr. M., not Mr. M. the Act of Parliament.* The important change which had just taken place in France, where Catholics, and Catholics alone, were slaughtered in thousands by the implacable enemies of England, the increasing liberality and political wisdom of the nation, joined to its

'* See the printed Correspondence between Lord Redesdale and the Earl of Fingal.

'† See the Report of the late Speeches in the House of Lords on the affairs of Ireland.'

experience

experience of the spirit of their enemies in the riots of 1780, imperiously called for the relaxation of the penal laws, and things were already in such a train for the success of the bill, previously to its being put into the hands of Mr. M. that any *Yea and Nay man* in either house could have carried it with as much ease as he did. Secondly, I say, that however most Catholics, on both sides of the channel, have changed their opinion concerning this nobleman, I never have had occasion to change mine. I heard his speech in March 1791, and I heard that which he delivered in May 1805 (to say nothing of his speeches, publications, and conduct at other times), and I assure you, Sir, I relished the latter speech better than I did the former, on the principle which makes every sensible man prefer an open enemy to a false friend. His object was the same on both occasions, to divide the Catholics into two parties, and particularly to set the laity against the clergy, for their mutual destruction. He was far, however, from having the same means of success, after he had thrown aside the visor as when he wore it. The advice which Lord R. gives the Catholics to join with him in pulling down their clergy, reminds us of the proposed treaty between the wolves and the sheep. "Nothing would be more easy," said the wolves, "than to keep peace with you, good sheep, if you would but turn out of your service those ill-bred barking dogs of yours."

Justice and toleration are beholden to the author for his few spirited, manly, and efficient sentences which repell the charge brought against the catholics of disregarding oaths;

'I know a respectable person who has repeatedly and publicly declared, that "the Irish are taught to believe there is no guilt in perjury, and that priests attend at the doors of the courts in Ireland to absolve perjured witnesses as they return from them." Good God! when will these anti-catholic calumniators become so far rational, as to see that this particular accusation stands refuted and scouted by the actual visible situation of the party accused! When will they acquire sense enough to see that Catholics have no occasion to petition parliament for a redress of their grievances, but that they have at all times a remedy for them in their own hands, if they could but reconcile it to their consciences to take a false oath. Surely these Papists could procure some priest, either for love or money, to absolve them! or, what would be better, they might procure a general dispensation from the Pope for a little occasional perjury, which other people commit without any dispensation whatsoever! They would thus obtain a great deal of wealth, influence, and power, which they might afterwards employ for the benefit of the Church, as well as for their own; and what would be more valuable to them than all this, by swearing contrary to their own conviction, they would vindicate their characters from the foul charge of perjury, and pass for honest men!——But, Sir, to be serious, I beg you will observe that the test oaths against Catholics have completely answered their purposes in keeping them out of parliament, benefices, and places, and in subjecting them to a thou-

sand

sand inconvenient and grinding laws. This incontestible and shining fact will for ever demonstrate the religion which Catholics attach to the obligation of oaths, and that their Church does not furnish them with any remedy for escaping from it. This incontestible shining fact will for ever confute and put to shame the calumnies of their enemies, many of whom are well known to have never refused an advantage which could be gotten by swearing. I have mentioned to you, Sir, that the test oaths, invented to keep Popery out of the state, have completely answered their purpose: but have those other oaths been equally effectual, which have been devised by the legislature to exclude heterodoxy from the established Church? or corruption from parliament? or smuggling from commerce? You are aware, Sir, what details I could furnish upon each of these heads: but I spare you the relation, on the condition that you never join the daring calumniators who have the front to reproach Catholics with the practice of perjury!'

We are wholly ignorant of the author's allusion in the following passage; we hope that his fears are without foundation; and we trust that our *active* and *vigorous* ministry will be able to maintain their popularity by the display of bustle less fatal and pernicious:

'This, however, my dear Friend, and all your other grievances put together, are a mere trifle, compared with the wide wasting, exterminating persecution, with which you are threatened by a man who, from his connections, is supposed to be one of the most powerful men in the empire, and who lately filled one of the first situations in your island. Yes, if the legislature could be persuaded to follow up, and the public to approve of the plans of the nobleman I allude to, Ireland would become, in the reign of George III. a scene of more horrible carnage than it was in those of Elizabeth and Oliver Cromwell. What he professedly aims at, is the new-modelling of your unchangeable form of ecclesiastical government. He is bent upon the annihilation of all Catholic Metropolitans, Bishops, and even Parish Priests; for no other reason, than because the state has chosen to adopt this same apostolical form of government for the Established Church. Following up this rule, he will equally forbid the use of our Missal and Breviary, because the Common Prayer Book is almost entirely taken out of them. Again, he is resolved upon depriving the Catholic Church of the essential and inalienable right of every society, that of excluding atrocious and refractory offenders from its communion. But to make an end of this matter; it is impossible the learned author of the present system should be ignorant, that the innovations which he here proposes go to far greater lengths of schism than those contained in the famous CIVIL CONSTITUTION OF THE CLERGY enacted by the French national assembly; the enforcing of which constitution caused the murder of 24,000 clergymen, and the banishment of 64,000 others, independently of lay sufferers, without accomplishing its object: nor has this personage any reason to suppose that the Catholic

Catholic Bishops and Priests, and Laity of Ireland, if called upon to suffer the extremity of the law in defence of their religion, would shew less firmness than their brethren in France have done.'

Though we are aware of the arts of the school to which the author belongs, we do not believe that he is practising *finesse* in thus addressing a Catholic correspondent at Waterford:

'Whilst I exhort you to be faithful to your sovereign, let me not forget to admonish you of the fidelity you owe to your God. You will gather from what I have already said, that I consider your approaching emancipation as an event which is likely to be trying to your religious constancy and piety. To speak the truth, I think, I see that the very prospect of this change makes a few individuals affect an air of latitudinarianism totally inconsistent with the tenets of catholicity, and disposes them, in particular, to barter away the inalienable spiritual rights of the Church for their own temporal advantage. This system of indemnification, at the expense of the Church, has been acted upon to a great extent of late upon the continent of Europe. But then they were only temporal possessions which were thus disposed of: whereas, in the instance to which I allude, the vital interests of Christ's spiritual kingdom have been held up to sale by those who never had or can have a right to dispose of them.'

The emancipation of the catholics would doubtless very much reduce the power and consideration of their clergy, as well as diminish the numbers of the laity.

Jo.

ART. XIV. *The History of Devonshire,* Chapter II. by the Rev. Richard Polwhele. Folio. Sewed. Cadell and Davies.

IF this author subjects himself to censure for his piece-meal and dilatory publications, we may not perhaps hold ourselves entirely excuseable in having delayed to notice the addition to his History of Devonshire, which has now been longer before the public than we were altogether aware: but we have been expecting to receive some farther portion of the work. The 177 pages, which were originally sent forth, are here extended to 329; of which the Roman British period and that of the Saxons and Normans constitute a considerable part: the chapters that follow proceeding from Edward the First to Charles the First, and thence to the Revolution. Each period contains eleven sections, under the heads of, Civil and Military Transactions: Civil and Military Constitution: Religion: Architecture: Agriculture: Mining: Manufactures: Commerce: Inhabitants: Population; and Manners. These sections, as may be easily conjectured, are of very unequal lengths; some of them are indeed extremely short;

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as a proof of which, and at the same time as a specimen of the writer's manner, let the reader take the last:

'The delineation of provincial characters is commonly fanciful; where an attempt is made to discriminate the *manners* of one county from another. In the present race of gentlemen in the obscure parts of Devon (particularly the N. W.), we see what our forefathers were, throughout the county, at the commencement of this period (Charles I. &c.)—We see hospitality, with no great degree of politeness, a tenaciousness of real or imaginary rights, an intemperate ardour in the pursuits of the field, and a disposition to tyrannize over "the caitiffs who kill game." It is far otherwise in the county in general, where the polished gentleman more frequently occurs than any *where else throughout the island.*—"To catch the manners living as they rise" in the different towns of Devonshire, would be a pursuit more invidious than useful.'

In discussing the period of the rebellion, the author properly expresses himself as 'ever an enemy to usurpation;' yet true friends to the peace, liberty, and comfort of human society may have some doubt, whether he maintains all that respect which is due to blessings so important and essential, and which truth and rectitude seem to require.

Concerning Agriculture, we find it observed:—'At the commencement of the present period, the western counties were very deficient in the art of husbandry; they seem to have withdrawn their care from the vegetable to the mineral productions of nature. But, within the last fifty years, the spirit of agricultural improvement hath stimulated the gentlemen of the west to the most laudable exertions, and I have little doubt but the Bath-society will be imitated by Devon and Cornwall, not only in zeal and perseverance, but in sound judgment and inventive sagacity.' Beneficial improvements, national or personal, are truly valuable: but a watchful eye is requisite, lest individuals should be injured and oppressed by that which in some respects may carry the aspect of amelioration.—Relative to Literature, we read:

'The tradesmen of the towns, however low their occupation, and even our honest yeomen in the country, think it necessary to send their boys and girls to grammar and boarding schools,—all aspiring beyond their proper sphere. Though such a number of grammar schools are instituted in our petty towns, though almost half our village curates are announcing, in pompous advertisements, their systems of private education, and though our public nurseries for forwarding the growth of females are every day increasing around us; yet the principal seminaries (particularly the two rival schools of Exeter and Tiverton, that used to rise or fall alternately) are at the present moment unusually full,—a sufficient proof of the above observation. The old established boarding-schools continue to flourish

flourish, notwithstanding the various improvements on education that seize the attention of superficial people. This is not to be attributed so much to our increasing population, as to the ill judged ambition of parents, whose situation in life will not authorize their views. The mechanic, who is taught the elements of the Latin tongue, often acquires a taste that ill accords with his future destination, and forms wishes that are subversive of his happiness; whilst the yeoman's daughter, who might have been useful to her parents at home, or a valuable servant abroad, imbibes with her French the seeds of vanity, and treasures up, with increasing avidity, the lessons of prostitution.'

Several remarks and relations that would be acceptable might be drawn from these pages, which in their unconnected state seem to have rather an aukward appearance. We hope that Mr. Polwhele will continue his History with more punctuality and dispatch than it has hitherto evinced.

Hi.

MONTHLY CATALOGUE,

For MAY, 1809.

RELIGIOUS.

Art. 15. *An Address to the Archbishop of Canterbury, on the Propriety and Usefulness of Sunday Evening Lectures.* By the Rev. George Henderick. 4to. 1s. Rivingtons. 1808.

WELL may the Clergy of the Established Church avow their alarm at the rapid progress of Methodism; but it is *not* well nor decorous in them to express the faintest desire of abridging the liberty afforded by the Toleration act; or even to hint, in a distant way, as does Mr. H., that 'any *new* measures adopted by the Legislature would be *deemed* intolerant and persecuting.' It is a hard case, indeed, if the great body of the English clergy, well educated, affluent, and patronized, cannot be a match for a number of poor, illiterate, and obscure itinerants, without calling in the arm of the civil magistrate. Against such an interference, we hold up our hundred hands; and we intreat the Clergy, whose cause we espouse, to depend in this warfare on their own talents, zeal, and assiduity. We could wish that the whole body, like their respectable brother Dr. Ingram, saw the matter in its *true* light; and were prepared to own that the *fomes mali*, as the physicians would say, exists in some injudicious expressions in certain books which are cited as authorities, and which, as long as these phrases are sanctioned, will give the Calvinistic orator an advantage over the rational Divine. The enlightened preacher in the Establishment should not wait for these changes before he takes the field, but should bear his protest against tenets which are clearly unscriptural, and endeavour to counteract the arts of proselytism by such measures as the state of society and the times require.

Mr. Henderick is of opinion, and not without reason, that Sunday Evening Lectures have greatly contributed to the cause of Methodism; and he proposes that similar Lectures should be established by the Church, in all large towns and populous villages. We are not partial to any *candle-light assembling* of this kind; yet we are ready to admit, with Mr. H., that multitudes of the lower classes know not how to fill up their time on the Sunday evening, and find more satisfaction at the Lecture than in their own uncomfortable habitations; while it affords to others the only opportunity which they possess for hearing a sermon. Late dinners, it may also be urged, prevent attendance on the Afternoon Service. If Evening Lectures, however, are appointed, in order to check the growth of Sectaries, popular preaching must be introduced, and not the '*reading** of a sermon from some approved author.' In some places, Chapels should be built for the purpose; since large Gothic churches are not fit to be opened to the populace by candle light. **Mo-y.**

Art. 16. *A new Argument for the Existence of God.* Crown 8vo. pp. 68. Boards. Longman and Co. 1808.

Is this author a *quizzing* philosopher or an atheist in disguise? His doctrines are that the non-existence of matter is an irresistible proof of the existence of God; that the universe is an universe of effects; that the cause is out of sight; that the Deity produces all those effects immediately by himself, which excite in us the idea of an external world; and that no one would have doubted the existence of God, if he had not believed in the existence of an external world. After such dogmata, it is ridiculous to talk of the operations of Nature: but, as the author means to be ludicrous, why should we be serious, and to his shadows oppose solid argument? **Do**

Art. 17. *A View of the Origin, Progress and Diversity of Heathen Worship*, antecedently to the Christian Revelation. By T. Thomas, of Wareham. 8vo. pp. 126. 4s. Boards. Bickerstaff. 1808.

What commendable motive could have induced the publication of this essay, we are at a loss to conjecture. Mr. Thomas, in our opinion, has given no new views of ethnic idolatry, nor has proposed any satisfactory explanation of the most difficult circumstance in antient worship, viz. the offering of victims by fire to the Deity, either as eucharistic or piacular sacrifices. The different objects of idolatry have been often pointed out, such as the heavenly bodies, the parts and powers of nature, demons, and deified men; and we acquire little knowlege from such imperfect and declamatory discussions as these pages contain. It is not of much importance whether idolatry was first systematized in Egypt or in Chaldea; nor are we greatly interested now in tracing its absurd and disgusting rites.

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* Reading is never felt to be eloquence. The Clergy should learn to preach without notes; and why cannot they adopt this species of oratory as well as the Members of the Legislature, or the Gentlemen of the Bar? Let them not yield to illiterate teachers in this respect.

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We agree, however, with this writer in his praise of the books of the Old Testament; which elevate themselves above all the literary and philosophical productions of the Greeks and Romans, by their sublime and uniform inculcation of the spirituality and unity of God, and by their pointed condemnation of all worship directed to inferior objects: but, while we cordially subscribe to this prominent characteristic of the Jewish writings, we cannot allow that Homer had any knowlege of them, since his Pantheon and rabble of deities are incompatible with the doctrine and worship of Jehovah on Mount Zion. 'Moses, indeed, stands alone, (as Mr. T. remarks,) among the most eminent men in the most celebrated empires,' and we were surprized to find it conjectured that Parnassus was borrowed from Mount Zion;—that the dialogue between Achilles and his horse originated in the history of Balaam and his ass;—that Jove's chain of gold is only Jacob's ladder a little metamorphosed;—that Jupiter's presidency over the element of light, as described in Homer, arose from the command in Genesis, "Let there be light and there was light;"—and that the "wind-footed" Iris is represented as the bearer of Jove's orders in allusion to the fact recorded by Moses, that "God made a wind to pass over the earth, and the waters were assuaged." On such evidence, we cannot believe that Homer was acquainted with the Jewish lawgiver. Mo-y.

Art. 18. *Popular Objections to the Established Church*, stated in a Letter to our Neighbours. 12mo. 6d. Burditt.

Complaining that Dissenters from the Established Church are treated illiberally and contemptuously, the author of this little pamphlet stands forwards to redeem the characters and understandings of his brethren, and adverts to the most disputable parts of the Established System in justification of a separation from it. Nothing new is advanced, but the objections are urged in a popular way. D.o

Art. 19. *Reflections of a Layman on the Divinity of Christ, the Unity of the Deity, and the Doctrine of the Trinity.* 12mo. 1s. Payne. 1808.

Can it be supposed that these very difficult points can be treated to the satisfaction of any serious inquirer, in the narrow compass of 27 duodecimo pages, loosely printed? How vain must this Layman be! D.o

Art. 20. *The Sunday Scholar's First Book.* Being all that is judged necessary as a Preparative for beginning the Testament in Sunday Schools. 16mo. pp. 56. Eddowes, Shrewsbury. 1808.

This little work is properly adapted for those useful institutions, for which it is designed; and, although short, it is very comprehensive. The author professes to teach in a small compass the elements of reading; to impress strongly on youthful minds the sentiments of piety towards God and love to their fellow-creatures; and to enforce the necessity of performing their duty in this world, and looking for a recompense in the world to come. For all these important purposes, it is, considering its extent, well calculated, and deserves to be put into the hands of young persons. W. Re-s.

Art. 21. *A Dissertation on the Pelagian Heresy*, in two Parts; the first, containing an Historical Sketch of its Rise and Progress to the Synod of Brevi; and the second, its pernicious Doctrines, and their Confutation. By the Rev. John Williams, Rector of Nantmel, Radnorshire, and Master of Ystradmeirig School. 8vo. pp. 111. 3s. Boards. Rivingtons. 1808.

The subject of this tract embraces a remote and obscure period of history. Pelagius, who has been so often mentioned by ecclesiastical writers on account of his heretical opinions, is supposed to have been born about the middle of the fourth century. He was a native of Britain, and, it is conjectured, of that part which is now called Wales: but he resided a considerable time at Rome, whence he removed to Africa, and there it is imagined he died. His opinions, however, did not die with him, but continued to gain ground in Britain, to the vexation of the Clergy, who exerted every effort to suppress them; this, however, they were not able to effect; and at length, in the year 519, it was judged necessary to summon a synod of the bishops, presbyters, and principal laity for that purpose. The meeting was holden near the banks of the river Teivy in Cardiganshire, at a place called Llandewi Brevi; and at this synod Pelagianism was unanimously condemned, and several canons were drawn up against it. To this censure, the eloquence and the weight of character of David, who was afterward canonized, essentially contributed. The arguments employed at the synod, as the present author says, have been lost, owing to the destructiveness of time, or the negligence of our ancestors; and therefore the second part of the present pamphlet is occupied in supplying the deficiency, and combating the doctrines.

In the appendix, is a curious History of the Church at Llandewi Brevi; and also a poem of some length in praise of St. David, in the original Welsh, with an English translation.

As an inquiry into Welsh ecclesiastical history, the work before us contains many curious particulars, which will be found peculiarly interesting to such as wish to be acquainted with the antient ecclesiastical records of the country. Considerable pains seem to have been taken in collecting the materials, accompanied also by an appearance of haste in the composition. A premium was awarded for this dissertation by the society for promoting Christian Knowlege and Church Union in the Diocese of St. Davids, and it was printed at their expence.

Art. 22. *An Address to the Clergy of the United Church in Ireland, on the present Crisis.* By an aged Minister of the Gospel. 8vo. Pamphlet. Dublin. 1809.

With the flattering persuasion that he is "such a one as Paul the aged," this clergyman assumes the office of apostolically addressing his brethren; and as far as the recommendation to preachers of enforcing good doctrine by suitable examples is concerned, his exhortation is not unworthy of an aged minister of the Gospel: but, when he adverts to the circumstances of the present crisis, he rather betrays his fears than exerts his reasoning powers; and he vents his dislike of Romanists and of Protestant Sectaries, instead of endeavouring

ing to neutralize that effervescence of religious parties which prevails in Ireland. This clergyman would remove none of *the old landmarks*, would yield to no *novelties*, would come to no terms with "*seducing spirits*," and with "*reprobates concerning the faith.*"

Can such an address be politic? What good can it effect?

M6.y.

POETRY.

Art. 23. *Little Odes to Great Folks*; with a dedicatory Dythyrambic to Sir R-ch-rd Ph-ll-ps, Knight. By Pindar Minimus. With Notes critical and explanatory, by Sextus Scriblerus. 8vo. 4s. Boards. Oddy.

We should be sorry to discourage the use of playful satire in politics: let writers of all parties exhaust the quivers of pleasantry on their opponents: but let them not at random load each other with indiscriminate and unappropriate ridicule. It were easy to produce a couplet describing Aristotle as an ideot, and Newton as a driveller: but what should we think of such rhimes? Draw caricatures, and welcome, but preserve some faint likeness; deal in the ludicrous, but do not outrage all probability. Neither should all decorum be violated by indulging in personal abuse and ribaldry. Instigated by party rage, which scorns to be controlled by good manners or good humour, Pindar Minimus throws about his dirt with a vengeance, and from his scavenger's cart bespatters all the Great Folks who are not of his party. The genius which he displays, therefore, and the portion is not inconsiderable, is so alloyed by scurrility and coarse wit, that before the smile can be formed it is suppressed by disgust.

D.o

Art. 24. *A Selection of Psalms*, adapted to the Service of a parochial Church. From various Authors. 12mo. 1s. Crosby and Co.

Sternhold and Hopkins ought no doubt to be laid on the shelf; and it is not a little surprising, after so many episcopal hints, delivered in charges, for the improvement of psalmody, that these very unpoetical gentlemen (or we might have said, these *hum-drum* rhimers) should retain their station in any one parochial church. In the fashionable chapels, at the west-end of the town, Selections of Psalms and Hyms are used with universal approbation; and no solid objection can exist, to prevent country churches from profiting by this example. The little manual of metrical psalmody before us is well suited to the purpose for which it was intended, and may moreover be introduced as a school book; a purpose to which the version of Sternhold and Hopkins could never be applied, since we could not think of teaching children the bald rhimes of those writers. Some judicious observations occur in the preface to this little volume, which is offered at a low price, and may be enlarged; though it is not necessary that Collections of Psalms should be very copious, especially as no opportunity is offered in the established church for adapting psalms and hymns to the subjects of discourses.

The selections are made from Merrick, Tate and Brady, Watts, Hawkesworth, Addison, Bishop Kenn, Pope, Browne, Cottle, &c. D.o

Art. 25. *Choix de Psaumes, des meilleures Traductions Françaises, á l'Usage de l'Eglise Conformiste de St. Martin Orgars.* 12mo. 1s. Boosey.

St. Martin Orgars, in St. Martin's Lane, Cannon Street, is the only protestant church in the Metropolis in which the service of the Establishment is performed in the French language; and the minister of this church, in conformity to the recommendation of the Bishop of London to his clergy, to attend to the improvement of psalm-singing, has here furnished a collection of psalms, for the most part translations of those which have been transmitted to us by David and other "sweet singers of Israel," together with tunes adapted to the different metres. The author flatters himself that, by this compilation, he has contributed to the improvement as well as increased the attractions of public worship; that young persons belonging to his church will commit some of them to memory; and that the instructors of English youth in the French tongue will be induced to bring their pupils occasionally to St. Martin Orgars, in order to familiarize them with the English ritual in the French language. What kind of French devotional poetry this collection is intended to supplant we know not, and therefore we cannot decide on its comparative merit: we can only say that it seems not ill adapted to the purpose for which it is intended.

Art. 26. *English Musical Repository*; a choice Collection of esteemed English Songs, adapted for the Voice, Violin, and German Flute. 12mo. 3s. 6d. Boards. Crosby and Co. 1808.

A hundred songs are here selected, on the subjects of love and war, the dangers of the sea, the joys of the bottle and the chase, &c. &c. many of which are old standards in the vocal miscellany, and some are of modern birth. The collection is not on the whole badly formed, and those compositions are properly excluded which trench on the boundaries of decorum. The addition of the music in score will be very acceptable to persons who practise on the violin or the flute.

Art. 27. *The Times*: an Ode at the Commencement of the Year 1809. By Joseph Blacket. 8vo. 1s. Goddard.

As the effort of 'an unlettered and self-tutored youth,' this ode claims from us praise of no frigid cast. The kindred spirits of Liberty and Poetry are here combined; and we need only copy the last stanza, to prove that Mr. B.'s genius blossoms with some promise:

'Burn on, fair Sun, in splendor bright,
And on HISPANIA'S rocky shore,
Attend the Patriots to the fight,
Nor set, till VENGEANCE cries aloud,
"Ambition festers in his gory shroud,
"To tyrannize and subjugate no more."
Yes, yes, blaze on—and through the gallant bands
Diffuse heroic heav'n-directed fire;
Inspire the bosoms of the just and brave
With love of liberty and hallow'd ire,

That

That with united hearts and hands
They may, from GALLIA's frontless brow,
The laurels tear—lay her proud eagle low,
Then, till the FABRIC OF THE WORLD
Be all in CONFLAGRATION HURL'D,
Alike subdue the TYRANT and abhor the SLAVE.'

In the preceding strophes, the poet endeavours to animate his countrymen warmly to espouse the cause of the Spaniards against their cruel invaders.—An additional specimen of the powers of this young Bard has just reached us, which is printed only for private circulation. We shall be glad to find that talents, like those which are here opened to view, are warmly encouraged to emerge from their present lowly retreat.

Mo-y.

Art. 28. *The Church-Yard;* and other Poems. By George Woodley. Crown 8vo. pp. 155. 6s. Boards. Tipper. 1808.

From Gray's elegy, Hamlet's conversation with the grave-diggers, and some of Addison's more serious essays in the Spectator, Mr. Woodley has compiled his poem on a church-yard, which deservedly occupies the front of his collection, and proves him to be blessed with a pious and humane mind. In his nocturnal walk, he stumbles on a skull, and, like the Danish prince, is naturally led to speculate "what shoulders bore this ghastly emblem of mortality:" like him, too, he dwells on the probability of its having belonged to a beauty or a barrister; and we discern some ingenuity in his mode of stating the latter conjecture:

'Haply some cunning counsellor once bore
This empty shell. One, skilful to arrest
Impending judgment; and, with subtle quirk
Of legal nicety, to draw the line
Of right and wrong; or, with judicial skill,
To trace distinction where no diff'rence lay.
But say, O pleader! when the writ of death
'Gainst thee went forth, did all thy art avail?
Alas! unlike the tedious course of law,
His process took a summary effect!
No bail for thee might stand; no plea be urged;
Nor order of imparlance be allowed!
All, all were vain! Mute is the rattling tongue,
Which once could agitate the awful bench,
And set the drowsy pannel in a roar!'

The following description is natural. The poet has just turned from contemplating the burying place allotted to a suicide:

'Whilst, pensive, on the horrid act I muse,
Methinks each object that surrounds me, wears
A deeper vesture of solemnity.
A darker tint has overspread the sky,
And sheds reflected horror on the earth!
'Tis midnight. Universal silence reigns!
All nature in such heavy slumber lies
As tho' 'twould 'wake no more. No sound is heard

Thro' all the ample landscape. Not a leaf,
Descending slowly on the drowsy air,
Attracts th' attention of the eye or ear.
The nightingale hath ceased her mellow note,
And sinks into the general repose.
So great the stillness, that, against my side,
Plainly I hear my bosom's tenant beat,
In due and measured pace, the march of time!—
Whilst all creation else is wrapt in sleep,
I only, at this dread, this solemn hour,
Remain awake, and fondly linger here;
And greater pleasure, more refined delight,
More chastened joy, regales my happy soul,
As greater horror wraps the dreary scene!'

Mr. Woodley's smaller poems do not demand particular notice. The composition of them is generally correct, though we encounter one verse in which a common word receives a most extraordinary accent:

'Recoiling Nature shudders to survey *thee*
(a redundancy against which we must protest, *en passant*,)
And shakes, *involuntarily*, the hand." P. 40.

At such poetry, we will add in prose that we shake, *involuntarily*, *the head*.

Den.

Art. 29. *Greenwich*, a Poem descriptive and historical. By James Sansom. 8vo. pp. 95. Printed by Subscription for the Author. 1808.

Mr. Sansom's poem may be properly regarded as a *guide* to the scenes described in it, and in that point of view would be of considerable service to a *Stranger in Greenwich*. Sublime poetry would have been here misplaced; and it would perhaps be unreasonable to expect very harmonious numbers, or a style highly polished: but the writer's execution is fully equal to his modest pretensions. We will give our readers some notion of the versification by two short extracts,—one relating to the boisterous festivities of Easter-fair, the other describing the statue of George the Second at the Hospital;

'Now festive Easter wakes the vernal dawn,
And noisy Revelry invades each lawn,
With Frolic hand in hand, when all around,
Unseemly Gambol shakes th' affrighted ground.
Vulgar Intrusion taints the breath of Spring,
To distant shades the feather'd songsters wing,
The sober Virtues shun the alter'd place,
Where giggling Sport displays his ale-flush'd face.'

The second passage is inferior to the general style, but it is quaint, characteristic, and amusing:

'His form in the great square majestic rose,
Sculptur'd in marble, won from *Albion's* foes.
O glorious trophy! noblest work of Art!—
Which strikes with conscious pride each Briton's heart;
On which the vet'rans oft with rapture look,
And tell their friends, "the prize was won by Rooke,"

While

While they recount the battle's varied rage,
And of their youthful deeds exult in age.'

A very affectionate address, apparently to the author's wife, introduces the volume.

Den.

POLITICS.

Art. 30. *Letters from a Member of Parliament to his Friend in the Country.* Letter I. 8vo. 2s. 6d. Ridgway. 1809.

The object of this letter-writer is to repress our rage for continental expeditions, and to condemn the system which Ministers have adopted, of acting by a British army in Spain, directed by the wishes of the Spanish Juntas. By such a plan, it is contended, neither the British arms could acquire any glory nor Spain reap any benefit. The Government is charged with having kept back from us the knowlege of facts, and of having lavished the resources of the country in conflicts with the enemy on the peninsula, without having weighed and provided for all the circumstances of this warfare. They are also accused of having taken false views of the whole subject: but, as only part of the inquiry is before us, we can do no more at present than hint at the prominent ideas of this pamphlet.

Mo. R.

NATURAL HISTORY.

Art. 31. *Observations on the Brumal Retreat of the Swallow;* to which is annexed a copious Index to many passages relating to this Bird, in ancient and modern Authors. By Philochelidon. 8vo. 1s. 6d. W. Phillips.

It is not a little astonishing that the question should still be undecided by Naturalists, whether the Swallow be or be not a bird of passage. Authorities are strong in favour of its migration; and authorities equally weighty pronounce its winter state to be that of torpor. The present writer, though a decided advocate for the former opinion, fails not to give evidence on both sides; and his index of reference is so truly copious, that no one can doubt of his having allotted great attention to the subject. The few instances of flight, which he notices, are not enough to prove the migration of all the swallows of Great Britain to a warmer climate; nor have the birds been found in a torpid state in sufficient numbers to establish the contrary principle. If, however, they made their Brumal retreat to warmer climates, it seems strange that they should return to us in the Spring even before all the effects of winter have ceased, and when our atmosphere cannot furnish so many insects as that which they have left.

Do.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Art. 32. *A Monument of parental Affection to a dear and only Son.* (By the Rev. Joshua Gilpin, of Wrockwardine, Salop.) 12mo. 3s. 6d. Boards. Hatchard, &c. 1808.

Indulgence must be readily conceded to an author who writes under the affecting circumstance of the loss of a most promising and only child, at the early age of 18; and therefore we feel

extreme reluctance to touch this monument with the rough finger of criticism. Yet we cannot refrain from observing that christian faith, and the soothing hand of time, might have been expected so far to have abated the violence of grief, as to have restored Mr. Gilpin, after the lapse of two years, to that state of mind which expresses its sensations with calmness and discretion. We are sorry that, while in this volume he endeavours to display the singular talents and attainments of his departed son, he has not been sufficiently guarded in his method of exhibiting them. To that "sorrow which wantons in fullness" we do not object; but it should have bounds in the display of it. Joshua Rowley Gilpin, the object of this memoir, was no doubt a very promising youth; but, by the partial father's account, at a very early age his attainments, both in science and literature, were almost unprecedented; and his knowlege of religion was so matured that he 'frequently found himself associated with angelic spirits.' The very passages of scripture which refer to our Saviour are applied to this young man. He is not only represented as "increasing in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man," but in composure under his sufferings to be "as a sheep before her shearers, dumb and not opening his mouth." We are told by the mournful parent that his son was fond of reading *Alleine's Alarm to the Unconverted*, though, it is added, 'it is not to be supposed that Alleine could communicate to my son any thing absolutely new on the grand subject of conversion.' As dates are wanting, we cannot minutely trace his literary progress, and compare him with other instances of premature genius (See Mr. Maltby's Memoir, M. R. vol. li. N. S. p. 216.): but he may be quoted as another example which proves how little such phænomena are to be desired. When the mind grows faster than the body, the latter soon feels the effect; and this circumstance should operate as a lesson to parents, to be more solicitous in strengthening the constitutions of their children, than in exhibiting them as prodigies of genius. Mr. G. draws no inference of this sort; though he has protracted his narrative to a great length.

Possessing a mind imbued with piety, the author is yet too fond of displaying it. Speaking of the visitation (a complaint in the lungs, terminating in consumption,) by which he was deprived of his son, he says: 'No terrific messenger was sent to force away our darling child; but angels came on that commission:—no poisoned shafts were permitted to fly abroad; but a golden arrow dipped in love insensibly performed its work: neither *wind*, nor *earthquake*, nor *fire*, were allowed to disturb us with their tremendous exhibitions;—but, through all the mitigated visitation, *a still small voice* was heard, proclaiming peace before us.' His last visit is thus described: 'I hastened to embrace my Joshua before he should go forth to meet his Lord.' Mr. G. depicts his wife with equal enthusiasm: 'Every object around us was now pleasantly noticed, and happily improved—she pointed out the peculiarities of some curious plant; she exhibited the minute form of some shining insect; she commended the song of some feathered warbler; or she admired the grandeur of some flying cloud;—still inviting

us

us upward, till she had fixed our thoughts, where she delighed to occupy her own, among the unfading flowers and immortal fruits of the garden of God.' Moy.

Art. 33. *The Cutter,* in five Lectures, upon the Art and Practice of cutting Friends, Acquaintances, and Relations. 12mo. pp. 104. and six Plates. 5s. Boards. Carpenter. 1808.

Upstarts in fashionable life weigh the *pulchrum* and the *turpe* in scales of their own; in scales with which persons in the lower classes are not supposed to be acquainted. In the estimation of these gentry, poverty is more hideous than vice, and wealth and rank are more beauteous than virtue. Hence the recommendations to acquaintance derive their influence from fashion, not from morality; and if such an antiquated principle as the latter is likely, at any time, to be troublesome, they soon learn to subdue it. What lady or gentleman, who has obtained the felicity of keeping *fine company*, would recognize an old friend who is no longer rich nor useful, an intimate acquaintance in low life, or a relation who has the unpardonable fault of being poor? Such reptiles must be kept at a distance; and if they presume on claiming the privileges of friendship, they must be *cut*. How this operation is to be performed, the lecturer before us has explained with as much humour as the subject will admit; and he has illustrated his rules with designs which have great character in them. His *Cutter* is meant to be *cutting*: but those whom he intends to *cut* know better than to *cut* such a man as the *Cutter* himself. Do

Art. 34. *The Adventures of Ulysses.* By Charles Lamb. 12mo. pp. 201. 4s. Godwin. 1808.

The adventures of Ulysses, related in prose, without the circumlocutions, repetitions, and unnecessary episodes which occur in the Odyssey, cannot fail to make a very entertaining and marvellous story. They are capable, however, of doing much more; since the circumstances immediately preceding the catastrophe are of the most affecting nature, and abound with those delicate traits which are not more powerful in surprising the feelings, than in improving the virtuous propensities, of the youthful mind. Mr. Lamb has been much too sparing of these particulars; and his omission of his hero's interview with the old Laertes, and more especially of his recognition by Euryclea, appears to us highly injudicious.—The language here employed is also liable to censure; and, perhaps on account of the author's having borrowed too largely from Chapman's obsolete translation, he is occasionally harsh and obscure, and sometimes borders on vulgarity. 'A man, whose return the gods have set *their faces against*'—'*In God's name, old father, if you have got a tale, make the most on't*' (p. 143.)—'*They you speak of are sound aids indeed, as* powers that not only exceed human, but bear the chiefest sway among the gods themselves' (p. 161).—This is a style of phraseology which we are not anxious to hear in the mouths of the rising generation. To '*bear one in expectation*' more properly signifies *to expect* him than to produce expectation in him, as it is here used (p. 159.); and Ulysses is mentioned as intending to *taste* the

the cup of vengeance himself, when he was preparing it to be tasted by the suitors. (p. 161.) &c. &c. Den.

Art. 35. *Prison Lucubrations*; or, Letters from that well-known Citadel, Ellenborough Castle, St. George's Fields, to a Friend in the Country; succinctly describing the interior of that Fortress, its Rules, Usages, and Comforts. Interspersed with Anecdotes and Characters of its Inhabitants, and serious Reflections on Bankrupt Laws and Insolvent Acts, and on the Humanity, sound Policy, and moral Justice of indiscriminate and unlimited Imprisonment for Debt, under the Law of England, contrasted with the Usage of other Nations. By a Veteran. Dedicated to the Earl of Moira. 12mo. pp. 144. 3s. 6d. sewed. Cradock and Joy. 1808.

This long title-page is a sufficiently correct syllabus of the contents of the work; which, it will at once be perceived, is not devoid of either curiosity or importance. The author's picture of the inside of the King's Bench prison,—which 'has been generally termed by the merry paupers, its inhabitants, the *court, castle, lodge*, or *college*, of the presiding chief justice,'—is sketched with spirit and humour; and many of his reflections on the existing laws of debtor and creditor certainly deserve serious consideration. We are disposed to hope that the extreme difficulty of distinguishing, in many cases, the fraudulent from the unfortunate debtor, and a natural unwillingness to interfere for the purpose of depriving creditors of their only remaining chance of compensation for a civil loss, have alone deterred the legislature from a permanent and effectual reform of that oppressive code: but these obstacles surely are not insurmountable.—To the present state of things, the following remarks are, we fear, but too justly applicable:

'I know not, correctly, whether imprisonment for debt was originally intended by the legislature for the same avowed purpose as imprisonment for other crimes; namely, to correct the morals and reform the manners of those consigned to incarceration; certain, I believe it is, that both have pretty much the same effect; namely, to confirm the vicious habits; to explode the remaining morals; to ruin the characters, and preclude the future livelihood of nineteen prisoners in every twenty, and to change habits of industry, sobriety, decency, and decorum, into idleness, drunkenness, filth, and a desponding indifference to all character.' Do.

Art. 36. *British Chronology*: or a Catalogue of Monarchs, from the Invasion of Julius Cæsar to the Conquest of William, Duke of Normandy: to which are added Chronological Tables of English History, from the Conquest to the present Reign; calculated to afford Assistance to young Students of either Sex, who are desirous of attaining a Knowlege of the Annals of their Country. By the Rev. George Whittaker, A. M. Master of the Grammar School in Southampton. 12mo. pp. 79. 1s. 6d. Law. 1808.

All attempts similar to the present claim encouragement. In the substance

substance of a work of this kind it is not easy to err: but to convey it in proper language and apposite terms is no ordinary task. We cannot compliment Mr. Whittaker on his success in this respect; whose failure affords an additional instance of the difficulty of succeeding in the composition of elementary tracts, even of the most unpretending kind.

Jo.

Art. 37. *Christ's Hospital and the Parish of Edmonton. A Letter to William Mellish, Esq. M. P.* on a late Dispute in the Parish of Edmonton, and on the alleged Abuses in Christ's Hospital. By the Rev. Dawson Warren, A.M. Vicar of Edmonton. 8vo. pp. 48. 1s. 6d. Richardson.

Art. 38. *Letter to the Governors of Christ's Hospital*, being a Refutation of the Invectives and Misrepresentations contained in a Letter from the Rev. Dawson Warren, Vicar of Edmonton, to William Mellish, Esq. M P. By Robert Waithman. 8vo. pp. 54. 1s. 6d. Sherwood and Co.

The parochial altercation has so little connection with the subject in dispute, respecting the propriety of Mr. Warren's child being admitted into Christ's Hospital, i. e. to the Blue-Coat School, that it seems to be introduced only for the purpose of gratifying feelings which should in prudence be suppressed when appeals are made to the public. The layman, however, has a most decided advantage over the clergyman in this argument; since it is evident that the son of a man possessing an income of 1200l. or even of 800l. per annum, cannot be intitled to the benefits of a charity, which is appropriated to the education and maintenance of the children of "distressed men and of poor widows." Mr. Warren, in consequence of his very comfortable circumstances, makes out a very weak case in his letter to Mr. Mellish; and Mr. Waithman repays him in kind for all the improper acrimony which he suffered to flow from his pen. This last-mentioned gentleman has not only succeeded in carrying his point against the Vicar of Edmonton, (whose son is, we understand, withdrawn from the Charity,) but he has effected much public good, by calling the attention of the Governors of Christ's Hospital (a most noble institution) to a consideration of their duty, in selecting proper objects, and in preventing this provision for the poor from being perverted, through interest or abuse, to the service of those who do not want it.

Mo-y.

Art. 39. *An analytical Abridgment of Locke's Essay concerning Human Understanding.* 12mo. pp. 307. 5s. 6d. Boards. Lunn. 1808.

This appears to be a judicious and very creditable performance; well calculated to execute the true office of an abridgment, in recommending, not superseding, the study of the larger work. It will probably be found useful in assisting the memory of students in our Universities.

Den.

Art. 40. *The Intrigues of the Queen of Spain with the Prince of Peace and others.* Written by a Spanish Nobleman and Patriot. 8vo. 6s. Boards. Bell and Decamp.

The

The lovers of private scandal will be disappointed in this production; which relates, or rather attempts to relate, a series of political manœuvres: but which is a most tedious uninteresting fabrication, ushered into the world under a catchpenny title, and without a single authority for its allegations. **Lowe.**

Art. 41. *An Essay on the Life and Writings of Mr. Abraham Booth*, late Pastor of the Baptist Church in Little Prescott-Street, Goodman's Fields, London. By William Jones. 8vo. pp. 143. 4s. Button. 1808.

Within a limited circle, this memoir may be found "comfortable and edifying:" but to the public at large it will appear a heavy and dilated performance. According to this report, Mr. Booth was a star of the first magnitude both in the literary and the theological world: but the biographer will probably not be able to excite that general admiration of his hero which he himself has conceived. We think no more highly of Mr. Booth than of other men, on being informed that 'he had a solemn and abiding concern for his soul at eleven years of age;' nor can we applaud Mr. Jones's judgment when he asserts that 'this youth soon became a *solid* and *good* preacher,' when it is manifest that at this time he had received scarcely any education, and that his sentiments were not then established. By dint of application, however, at a subsequent period, Mr. B. cultivated his mind; and, though not intitled to that conspicuous niche in the Temple of Fame which his biographer would assign to him, he certainly had merit as a theological controversialist: but his sentiments were not of the most expanded description. As a strenuous antipædobaptist, he will be chiefly remembered. On his piety, Mr. Jones passes the highest eulogy; telling us that, towards the conclusion of life, 'they found him in sweet enjoyment of the Lord's presence, and Satan kept at a distance from him.' Should some persons be disposed to smile at such expressions, others will perceive in them "a savour of grace;" and for the latter the writings of Mr. Booth are mostly calculated. Mr. B. died January 27th 1806, aged 72.

A portrait is prefixed, which is by no means prepossessing. **Moy.**

Art. 42. *A Chronological Register of both Houses of the British Parliament*, from the Union in 1708 to the third Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, in 1807. By Robert Beatson, LL.D. 3 Vols. 8vo. 1l. 11s. 6d. Boards Longman and Co.

The contents of these volumes are thus set forth by the author:

'I. A List of all the Parliaments, with the several Alterations which have happened by Deaths, Preferments, and undue Elections, from the Union in 1708, to the First Session of the Third Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland in 1807.

'II. An Alphabetical List of all the Counties, Cities, and Boroughs, shewing the Time they first began to send Members, and their Rights of Election, as decided by the House.

'III. An Account of all the controverted Elections, with the

several Determinations concerning them, from the 29th of Elizabeth, to the present Time.

'IV. An Alphabetical List of all the Members, and their Country Seats, shewing the several Counties, Cities, or Boroughs, which they have represented.

'V. An Alphabetical List of Petitioners.

'VI. The Heads of the Statutes now in Force, concerning Elections.

'VII. A List of the Peers of England, who have sat in Parliament, from the Union with Scotland in 1708, to 1807.

'VIII. A List of Scots Peers, who have been returned to all the Parliaments since the Union.

'IX. A List of the Irish Peers who have been returned to the United Parliament of Great Britain and Ireland, since the Union in 1800.'

This laborious performance displays the characteristic diligence and fidelity of Dr. Beatson. In a detail so extensive and complicated, however, it was impossible wholly to avoid mistakes, and we have accordingly detected several: but they are such as admit of easy correction; and the volumes, on the whole, will form a valuable addition to the politician's library. The account of the various rights of election, and the heads of the statutes by which they are governed, very properly find room in these volumes, and are drawn up with laudable conciseness. **Jo.**

SINGLE SERMONS.

Art. 43. *The Importance of educating the Poor:* preached July the 17th, 1808, at the Black Friars, Canterbury, in Behalf of the Royal Free-school, recently established in that City. By John Evans, A.M. 8vo. 1s. Sherwood and Co.

We have here a rational and impressive defence of well intended and well-regulated labours for the instruction of the lower classes of mankind. This Royal Free-school, we are informed, contains about three hundred boys, and nearly one hundred girls; and the author says 'that it was with no small pleasure he witnessed the great good order and attention which prevailed among them.' The subject of the discourse is also recommended to attention, by a letter from Sir Richard Phillips, late one of the Sheriffs of London, to George Cumberland, Esq.; by which it appears that in the number of 152 criminals in Newgate, '25 signed their names in a fair hand, 26 in a bad and partly illegible hand, and the remaining 101 were *marksmen*, or persons who sign with a cross.' It is farther observed that, having 'been present at the distribution of bibles, testaments, and other religious books, the Sheriff found a great indifference among the criminals about the receipt of them.' Few could read with facility, more than half could not read at all, and a large majority were altogether insensible to the uses of such presents. These are surely strong facts to inforce the necessity of more general instruction, and to prove that a culpable negligence somewhere exists on the subject of moral and religious education. **Hi.**

Art. 44. *The Conversion of God's ancient People the Jews:* An Address delivered at Worship-street, Oct. 2, 1808, upon the Baptism

Baptism by Immersion, of Mr. Isaac Littleter, one of the Israelitish Nation, on his Profession of Christianity. To which is prefixed an Account of his Conversion. By John Evans, A.M. 8vo. 1s. Sherwood and Co.

The most curious part of this publication, viz. the account of the recent conversion of one of the Israelitish nation to the profession of Christianity, is very short, and, as no confession of faith is added, very unsatisfactory. Mr. Evans states that his sermon, on "*the Propriety of the time of Christ's appearance*," (see our No. for Feb. last p. 223.) was a principal means of effecting this important event; and he intimates that the doctrine so prevalent among Christians, *of a plurality of persons in the Godhead*, is the great stumbling-block of the Jews.—The address or sermon on Rom. xi. 1. discusses the antient and present state of the Jews, and offers a very neat and impartial examination of those questions respecting them, which are at present matters of debate among Christians. Though the preacher himself has no doubt of the re-possession of Palestine by the Jews, he fairly produces the great authorities which militate against this supposition; and he liberally exhorts Christians to treat the Jews as *our elder brethren*, and to throw no obstacles in the way of their conversion by an unscriptural faith, or by an uncharitable conduct.

As amusing addenda to this discourse, Mr. E. has subjoined brief accounts of a Roman coin struck on the taking of Jerusalem, and of the arch of Titus. The latter, we believe, is not very correct: but the incorrectness has no reference to the point for which this monument of antiquity is quoted.

Art. 45. *On the Propriety of preaching the Calvinistic Doctrines, and the Authorities for that Practice*; preached at Leicester, May 20, 1807, at the Visitation of the Rev. Archdeacon Burnaby. By the Hon. and Rev H. Ryder, A.M. Rector of Lutterworth. 8vo. 1s. 6d. Payne.

It may be presumed that specimens of true gospel-preaching could be easily collected in abundance from the preaching of Christ and his first apostles: but, according to the Hon. and Rev. Divine before us, neither the sermon on the mount nor that of Peter on the day of Pentecost, nor the discourses of Paul and Stephen, nor the Epistles of Paul to the Churches, will supply us with proper models; and we must restrict our attention to the Apostle's directions to his first bishops, in order to obtain a practical rule of preaching. Never, in our opinion, was a more weak and unfounded remark. What! did Christ execute his work so imperfectly on earth, as not to disclose the prominent doctrines of his religion? Does his method of preaching furnish no precedent adequate for his disciples; and is even Peter to be no guide to the modern evangelical preacher? When authorities are not favourable to their purpose, disputants thus contrive to set them aside.—Mr. Ryder, however, if he be not sufficiently captivated with the pure morality of our Saviour's discourses, to regard them as the fittest patterns of evangelical preaching, would not so far deviate from them as to annihilate morality by the introduction of the doctrines of election and reprobation. In short, when Christ and his Apostles do not come up to the Articles,

of our church, we are not to suppose them to be proper examples for us; and when the Calvinistic Methodists go beyond the Articles, we are to regard them as not evangelical.—Discourses of this sort evince the alarm which some of the clergy have taken, and with great reason, at the rapid increase of the Methodists: but such half-measures as have been hitherto advised will be ineffectual. Theology, as well as philosophy, is studied with more accuracy now than in the reign of James I.; and before men of sense can take the field against enthusiasts, they should have their fetters knocked off. Mo-y.

Art. 46. *On the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.* By Edward Pearson, D.D. Master of Sidney-Sussex College, Cambridge. 12mo. 6d. Hatchard.

Dr. Pearson endeavours, in this plain and practical discourse, to explain the nature of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, to state the advantages of this rite, and to combat the usual objections urged against receiving it. The passage which he has selected for his text (1 Cor. xi. 26, &c.) represents that ceremony merely as a *memorial*; and the words of Christ at the original institution (see the Gospels,) place it in this single point of view. The Communion Office is to the same purpose; and perhaps Dr. P. would have acted prudently, if he had not introduced those words in the Catechism which express the doctrine of transubstantiation, after the Church had wisely abandoned it. His remarks on the importance of this ordinance as one of the appointed means of promoting religion in the soul, and his mode of refuting the arguments employed by those who absent themselves from the Lord's Table, are judicious, and calculated to impress every serious reader. Do

Art. 47. Preached in the Parish Church of St. Paul, Bedford, before the Rev. Dr. Shepherd, Archdeacon, at the annual Visitation of the Clergy, held May 12, 1808. By the Rev. Joshua Morton, Vicar of Risely. 4to. 1s. Rivingtons.

If Mr. Morton has here displayed his attachment to orthodoxy and his detestation of heresy, he has not placed his charity in a very brilliant light, by asserting that 'in every circle of the revivers of ancient heresy there is an obvious dereliction of that strict morality which the religion of Christ has imposed on all its disciples.' O fye! O fye! Mr. Morton. Such an assertion will reflect no credit on the orthodoxy of the county of Bedford, which this preacher undertakes to proclaim. Do

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CORRESPONDENCE.

We have perused with great attention the polite but long letter addressed to us by Mr. Grant, author of the "Institutes of Latin Grammar," reviewed in our number for March last. His objections to our remarks on the subjunctive mood are very able, and elaborately stated: but we must confess that they have not had the effect of changing our views of the subject. The inquiry is interesting and important, and worthy of a more extended pursuit than is consistent with the limits of a literary journal; while at the same time its subtlety is such as to render a difference of opinion among the most diligent grammarians extremely pardonable.

We

We very willingly admit that, in some departments of his work, Mr. Grant is considerably more ample than the *Port Royal*, and we have allowed his method to be incomparably better; for which reasons we stated that, although the *Institutes* were not intitled to supersede the *P.R.*, they might be considered as forming a most useful and respectable auxiliary to it.

We meant to convey no censure on Mr. G. by our observations on the objectionable manner of expressing certain rules of grammar. Certainly he has only followed the example of his predecessors; and we merely seized the opportunity, afforded by his work, of protesting generally against a system by which, we are convinced, the acquisition of the elements of any language must be greatly embarrassed and retarded.

Le B.

The "*Sketches of Character*" will not be overlooked, but our attention to that production has been unavoidably delayed, in common with many others of the same class.

A Constant Reader reminds us that the late Lord Kenyon was Master of the Rolls, and not Attorney-General, at the time of the Westminster Scrutiny, to his conduct respecting which we alluded in our last No. p. 413. We have searched into this little matter of chronology, and find that our correspondent is right. The appointment of (then) Mr. Kenyon to the Rolls had taken place just at the period in question: but, as our *Constant Reader* adds, the mistake is worth notice only because 'one of the finest parts of Mr. Fox's unrivalled speech, on that occasion, is the contrast drawn and dwelt upon by him between the petulance and partiality exhibited by his formal antagonist, and the grave equanimity that we have a right to expect from the abstract character of *a judge*.'

We shall, in a short time, attend to the publication mentioned by *Senex*, as far as our duty requires, and our limited acquaintance with the particular circumstances will warrant.

Mr. Lindley Murray requests us to state that he had no concern in either the design or the execution of the *Lessons for Young Persons in humble Life*, mentioned in our Number for April, and which we conjecturally imputed to him; and that he should deem himself culpable if, by his silence, he attracted to himself the credit which is in this instance due to another person.

H. D. is received: but we cannot *obey injunctions* as to the extent of the notice which we shall take of any work.

Mr. Hutton's work will probably appear in our next Number.

*** The APPENDIX to Vol. 58. of the M. R. is published with this Number, and contains analyses of a variety of FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS, as usual, together with the *General Title, Table of Contents*, and *Index*, for the Volume.

Errors, pp. 3, 12, 19, 23, 27, 29, 32, 40, 41, 61, 64, 89, 98, 100, 104, 108, 110,